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BOROUGH OF PORT TALBOT

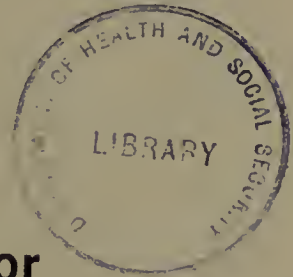
# Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and the

Chief Public Health Inspector



For the Year ended 31st December

**1968**





**BOROUGH OF PORT TALBOT**

# **Annual Report**

of the

**Medical Officer of Health**

**For the Year ended 31st December**

**1968**

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## **STAFF**

### **Medical Officer of Health.**

D. H. J. WILLIAMS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (also Medical Officer of Health, Glyncorrwg Urban District Council and Divisional Medical Officer, Glamorgan County Council).

### **Chief Public Health Inspector.**

L. J. CARTER (C.S.I.B., as Public Health Inspector and C.R.S.H. as Meat and Food Inspector). Fellow Association of Public Health Inspectors.

### **Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector.**

I. G. HEYCOCK (C.S.I.B. as Public Health Inspector and C.R.S.H. as Meat and Food Inspector).

### **Senior District Public Health Inspector.**

L. MORGAN (C.S.I.B., as Public Health Inspector and C.R.S.H. as Meat and Food Inspector, also Diploma as Smoke Inspector of Royal Society of Health. Member Association of Public Health Inspectors).

### **Additional Public Health Inspectors.**

W. CORNELIUS (C.S.I.B. as Public Health Inspector and C.R.S.H. as Meat and Food Inspector, also Diploma as Smoke Inspector of Royal Society of Health. Member Association of Public Health Inspectors).

K. D. RATTENBURY (C.P.H.I.E.B. as Public Health Inspector and C.R.S.H. as Meat and Food Inspector. Diploma as Smoke Inspector of Royal Society of Health, Member Association of Public Health Inspectors).

J. L. COOMBS (C.S.I.B. as Public Health Inspector and C.R.S.H. as Meat and Food Inspector. Member Association of Public Health Inspectors).

J. G. ROWLANDS (C.S.I.B. as Public Health Inspector and C.R.S.H. as Meat and Food Inspector. Member Association of Public Health Inspectors).

K. SNOOK (Diploma Public Health Inspectors Examination Board. Member Association of Public Health Inspectors).

### **Student Public Health Inspectors.**

Miss K. SCRUTON.  
K. CLEMENT.  
G. ELMS

### **Administrative Assistant.**

D. CROWLEY (appointed 3rd December, 1968).

### **Typists.**

Mrs. S. GEORGE (Senior)  
Miss C. FRANCIS.

### **Drain Tester and Disinfecter.**

L. GEORGE.

### **Rodent Operators.**

T. D. REES (Senior).  
P. HUGHES.  
K. MAINWARING.

## REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1968

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Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1968 for your consideration. The report is prepared in accordance with Circular 1/69 (Wales) from the Welsh Board of Health.

Following a summary of general statistics, I have prepared extracts from the Vital Statistics for your consideration and from these it will be seen that there has been a slight lowering in the total numbers of births recorded in the borough during the period under review. Much publicity has been given in the National Press to an increase in the illegitimate birth rate and it would appear that there is a corresponding slight rise of illegitimate births in Port Talbot.

There has been a commensurate slight drop in the total number of stillbirths.

In this borough the trend for hospitalisation of expectant mothers for their confinement has continued and we have been well served at both Neath General and Bridgend General Hospitals. It will be seen that nearly 80% of all live births occurred in hospital this year. This has been made possible not by an increase of the total number of beds available but by a quicker turnover in the hospitals themselves and the arrangement for early discharge which I recorded at Bridgend General Hospital last year has now been extended to Neath General Hospital. Where all conditions are satisfactory, both obstetric and domestic, mothers are discharged from hospital 48 hours or thereabouts after their confinement and receive their nursing under the care of the domiciliary service which is administered by me. The appointment of part-time maternity nurses to supplement the Domiciliary Midwifery Service has made this possible.

During the year I have been able to extend the Cervical Cytology arrangements in the borough and there is a steady flow of patients taking advantage of this service. I am very pleased to be able to report that no serious cases have come to light to date.

The total number of deaths within the borough remains fairly constant and as has been reported previously cardio-vascular conditions appear to be the most prevalent causes of death. On this occasion I have produced a revised chart for the vital statistics within the County of Glamorgan kindly prepared by the County Medical Officer, which gives comparative statistics for every district in the County.

Thirteen babies died in the neonatal period and from an examination of the causes of death given in the text of my report it will be seen that there was a high incidence of congenital abnormality amongst those who failed to survive.

As I have reported previously, I am the convening secretary for a Peri-Natal Maternity Liaison Committee which meets regularly at Neath General Hospital to discuss and consider neonatal deaths. These meetings are attended by the Obstetricians, Consultants, representatives of the Public Health and General Practitioner Services as well as hospital, medical and nursing staff.



During the year I have noticed a slight drop in the numbers of children being presented for immunisation against diphtheria/whooping cough/tetanus and poliomyelitis in the Local Health Authority Clinics. My Health Visitors inform me that many children are now being immunised by their own general practitioners and it is hoped that their work will help to maintain the immunity level which I have always been proud to record as high in the borough. The usual B.C.G. vaccination programme was carried out in the comprehensive schools in the borough during the year, this being the fourteenth year in our scheme.

I have been interested to observe that no fresh cases of tuberculosis were reported amongst the young population this year; the three cases that were notified occurred in older age groups.

During the year work went on to replace the prefabricated bungalows, the life of which had been found to be shorter than previously expected and the vast majority of families from these prefabs have now been rehoused.

An interesting development have been the Rofton Bungalow sites in Sandfields and in Cwmavon. Many Old Age Pensioners who formerly occupied prefabs and otherwise unsuitable accommodation have been rehoused in the centrally heated Rofton Bungalows and the vast majority inform me that they are well pleased with their new homes. Some do say, however, that they have found difficulty in understanding and controlling the heating arrangements and miss the open fire before which they formerly sat.

During the year work has gone on apace with the building of the Crematorium under the joint authorities of Port Talbot, Glyncoed, Maesteg and Porthcawl, and at the time of preparation of this report the official opening had taken place and the new service is proving acceptable to all concerned.

During the year investigations have taken place and a special section has been established in the Borough Engineer's Department to examine, report and prepare schemes for a new outfall sewer to serve the western half of the borough including Aberavon, Sandfields and the Baglan area. This will take the place of the totally inadequate and unsatisfactory open outfalls into the River Afan upon which I have commented adversely in previous annual reports. Examinations have also taken place of the joint outfall sewer serving the borough and the Glyncoed Urban District and this has been found to require major repairs in that portion of the sewer below high water mark. The development of the Kenfig Industrial Estate calls for adequate sewage disposal and this, too, has been exercising the mind of the Authority, whilst at the western end negotiations have been taking place between this Authority, the Neath Borough and the Neath Rural District Council towards the establishment of a major sewerage scheme.

Mr. L. J. Carter, the Chief Public Health Inspector has included in his section of this report details pertaining to Food Hygiene, Milk Supplies and Factories. I have, therefore, not included any details pertaining to these subjects in my section.

Mr. R. J. Lillicrap, Engineer and Manager of the West Glamorgan Water Board, has kindly submitted details of the water supplies for the borough and improvements which have taken place in the distribution during the year. At the same time it is interesting to note that consideration has been given to the establishment of a major water scheme to serve West Glamorgan with a reservoir at Llyn Briana and an abstraction point on the River Towy, near Nantgaredig.

Although the Glamorgan County Council has approved in principle the introduction of fluoride into water supplies and this authority is in support of this, financial difficulties have precluded any progress in this direction during 1968.

I am pleased to be able to say that the Meals on Wheels Service provided by the Authority has increased its total from 17,510 meals in 1967 to 24,351 in 1968. A number of elderly people who would have no other means of enjoying a Christmas Dinner were served by your staff on Christmas Day and this service was particularly gratefully received. Loneliness is one of the great problems of old age and to be alone on Christmas Day must surely be one of the greatest hardships. Fortunately the majority of old people do have relatives or friends who are able to receive them or give them companionship at Christmas time but there are a few who are still left alone. A visit, albeit short, by the Meals on Wheels Service proved the most helpful as far as these were concerned.

In the field of industrial expansion reference has been made in the body of the report to developments at the British Steel Corporation plant. I would refer you to the two major developments which are taking place, the first directed towards improved productivity in the first instance and also towards an improvement in the state of our atmosphere and the second directed to the welfare of the operatives by the establishment of a new medical centre.

In concluding the opening remarks to this Annual Report, the 17th of which I have had the privilege of presenting, I would like to express my thanks to all members of Council and to all my colleagues on the staff for their co-operation and enthusiasm for the preservation of the good health in Port Talbot during the period under review.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

D. H. J. WILLIAMS,

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,  
Park House,  
Theodore Road,  
PORT TALBOT.

Telephone: Port Talbot 2137



## SUMMARY OF GENERAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR, 1968

Area of Borough (inclusive of foreshore) .....	23,444 acres
Population (Registrar General's Estimated mid-year, 1968) .....	51,310
Rateable value at 31st March, 1968 .....	£4,067,558
Product of Penny Rate for year ended 31st March, 1968 .....	£13,053
Rainfall in inches in the Borough .....	42.63
Number of Houses erected in 1968 .....	246
(i) By Local Authority .....	135
(ii) By other Bodies or Persons .....	111
Number of Improvement Grants made during 1967:	
(a) Discretionary .....	64 )
(b) Standard .....	23 )
	Total 87
Number of houses connected to Mains Water Supply .....	17,014
Number of houses supplied from standpipes .....	None
Number of properties supplied from:	
(a) Mid-Glamorgan Water Board .....	12
(b) Neath Borough .....	None

### EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

#### Live Births.

Births	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate .....	351	354	705
Illegitimate .....	28	23	51
Total number of live births .....	379	377	756

	Crude	Adjusted
Live birth rate per 1,000 population .....	14.7	14.6
Live birth rate for England and Wales .....	16.9	—
Illegitimate Live Births. Per cent of total Live Births .....		6.75

#### Still Births.

Births	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate .....	9	5	14
Illegitimate .....	1	—	1
Total number of Stillbirths .....	10	5	15

Rate per 1,000 Total Live and Stillbirths .....	19.5
Total number of Live and Stillbirths .....	771

The following table is of interest:—

Number of live births at home in the Borough .....	90
Number of live births (Port Talbot mothers) at Neath General Hospital .....	587
Number of live births (Port Talbot mothers) at Bridgend General and other hospitals .....	79

Of all live births 78% occurred in hospital. In 1967 the percentage of births in hospital was 79 and in 1966, 75.

### Comparison of Crude Birth Rate with National Rate.

The Crude Birth Rate for the Borough can be seen from the following chart.

Year	Live Births	Crude Rate per 1,000	Crude Rate (England & Wales)
1959 .....	934 .....	19.19 .....	16.5 .....
1960 .....	1,034 .....	21.17 .....	17.1 .....
1961 .....	911 .....	18.21 .....	17.4 .....
1962 .....	977 .....	19.10 .....	18.2 .....
1963 .....	967 .....	18.77 .....	18.2 .....
1964 .....	987 .....	19.07 .....	18.4 .....
1965 .....	892 .....	17.22 .....	17.05 .....
1966 .....	792 .....	15.29 .....	17.7 .....
1967 .....	823 .....	15.9 .....	17.2 .....
1968 .....	756 .....	14.7 .....	16.9 .....

### Applications for Non-Emergency Hospital Beds

Patients due to be confined during	1966.		1967.		1968.	
	Applications Received. Refused.		Applications Received. Refused.		Applications Received. Refused.	
January .....	70	—	75	4	64	—
February .....	67	2	71	7	67	—
March .....	72	5	80	—	76	—
April .....	80	—	70	1	52	—
May .....	73	2	67	2	75	—
June .....	67	3	67	5	68	—
July .....	52	3	73	2	55	1
August .....	65	2	68	5	64	—
September .....	74	5	68	1	80	—
October .....	62	6	74	7	67	—
November .....	75	3	69	—	76	—
December .....	61	4	79	2	64	—

### Deaths.

Deaths from all causes in the area (Male 324, Female 233) 557

Death rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population: Crude 10.9

Death rate for England and Wales ..... Crude 11.9

The Crude death rate for the past ten years is summarised below:—

1967	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958
10.4	11.31	11.31	10.11	9.82	9.78	10.18	11.50	10.07	10.89

### Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

There were no deaths from puerperal causes during 1968.

### Infant Mortality.

Neonatal deaths—13.

Neonatal death rate per 1,000 live births—17.19

	One day— One week	One week— One month—
Respiratory failure. Hydrocephalus/spina bifida		
Talipes of both feet .....	1	—
Respiratory distress. Prematurity .....	2	—
Marked pulmonary oedema and severe generalized pallor .....	—	1
Non pneumatic lungs. Prematurity. Subtentorial haemorrhage .....	1	—
Non pneumatic lungs. Prematurity		
Intra ventricular haemorrhage. Idiopathic hypoglycaemia. Prematurity .....	1	—
Respiratory distress syndrome .....	2	—
Cardiac respiratory failure .....	1	—
Congenital heart disease. Malformations .....	1	—
Congenital heart disease. Malformations .....	1	—
Prematurity. A.P.H. ....	1	—
Cardiac failure. Prematurity .....	1	—

Deaths during one month to one year—4.

Broncho pneumonia. Congenital heart disease	1
Mongol .....	1
Congenital heart disease .....	1
Meningocele. Spina bifida. Chest infection. Acute pneumonitis .....	1

1968	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959
22.5	17.0	17.68	22.42	25.33	22.75	20.47	20.86	36.75	26.95

**Infant Mortality Rates.**

Total infant deaths (under 1 year)	17.22
Rate per 1,000 total live births	20.75
Legitimate infant deaths	16
Rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	22.69
Illegitimate infant deaths	1

**Neo-Natal Mortality Rate.**

Total neo-natal deaths (under 4 weeks)	13
Rate per 1,000 total live births	17.19

**Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate.**

Total neo-natal deaths (under 1 week)	12
Rate per 1,000 total live births	15.87

**Perinatal Mortality Rate.**

Total still-births and deaths under 1 week (combined)	27
Rate per 1,000 total live and still-births	35.0

**Maternal Mortality (including Abortion).**

Number of deaths	0
Rate per 1,000 total live and still-births	0

**Death (all Ages).**

The main causes of death in the Borough during 1968 were—

1. Cardiovascular conditions	180
2. Cancers of various kinds	95
3. Respiratory diseases (excluding Tuberculosis and Cancer)	88
4. Accidents	15

There were 19 deaths due to cancer of the lung, 17 amongst males and 2 amongst females.

This compares with: 25 deaths (23 males, 2 females) in 1967.

This slight reduction in the total should not give rise to complacency for whilst the number of male deaths is lower that of female deaths has remained the same —and today more and more females are joining the ranks of inhaling cigarette smokers.



# GLAMORGAN (ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY)—VITAL STATISTICS, 1968

	Estimated population 1968	No. of live Births	LIVE BIRTHS		Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate	No. of Deaths	DEATHS		Death Ratio of local adj. Death rate to Nat. rate	INFANT MORTALITY		PERINATAL MORTALITY		STILL BIRTHS	
			Rate per 1,000 population Crude	Adjusted			Rate per 1,000 Population Crude	Adjusted		Deaths under one year	Rate per 1,000 live births	Still births and deaths under one week	Rate per 1,000 live and still births	No. of still births	Still births rate per 1,000 total births
England and Wales	48,593,000	822,000	16.9			577,000	11.9				18		25		14
Administrative County	742,920	12,225	16.5	17.0	1.01	9,285	12.5	14.3	1.20	254	21	372	30	212	17
Urban Districts	524,650	8,215	15.7	16.2	0.96	6,723	12.3	14.6	1.23	185	23	270	32	151	18
Rural Districts	218,270	4,010	18.4	18.8	1.11	2,562	10.0	13.6	1.14	69	17	102	25	61	15
Health Division.															
Constituent Districts.															
Aberdare and Mountain Ash—															
Aberdare Urban	38,560	679	17.6	19.2	1.14	586	15.2	15.2	1.28	19	28	19	28	6	9
Mountain Ash Urban	28,150	442	15.7	15.7	0.93	369	13.1	15.9	1.33	9	20	20	44	13	29
Caerphilly and Gelligaer—															
Caerphilly Urban	39,130	774	19.8	19.4	1.15	452	11.6	14.4	1.21	22	28	27	34	13	17
Gelligaer Urban	34,640	616	17.8	17.8	1.05	409	11.8	15.3	1.29	12	19	12	19	6	10
Mid-Glamorgan—															
Bridgend Urban	15,190	188	12.4	12.8	0.76	156	10.3	11.1	0.93	3	16	8	41	5	26
Maesteg Urban	21,280	340	16.0	16.6	0.98	268	12.6	15.5	1.30	4	12	10	29	8	23
Ogmore & Garw Urban	20,390	327	16.0	16.5	0.98	262	12.8	15.6	1.31	7	21	12	36	6	18
Porthcawl Urban	13,120	206	15.7	18.5	1.10	177	13.5	10.8	0.91	4	19	3	14	1	5
Penybont Rural	49,310	1,052	21.3	20.4	1.21	607	12.3	11.7	0.98	21	20	32	30	18	17
Neath and District—															
Neath M.B.	29,910	386	12.9	13.4	0.79	390	13.0	13.9	1.17	10	26	14	36	8	20
Neath Rural	40,960	652	15.9	16.5	0.98	519	12.7	15.4	1.29	16	25	17	26	8	12
Pontypridd and Llantrisant—															
Llantrisant Rural	31,800	742	23.3	24.0	1.42	352	11.1	15.3	1.29	12	16	18	24	12	16
Pontypridd Urban	35,060	547	15.6	15.9	0.94	470	13.4	13.9	1.17	12	22	16	29	6	11
Port Talbot and Glyncoirwg—															
Glyncoirwg Urban	9,480	185	19.5	18.9	1.12	104	11.0	16.2	1.36	9	49	10	52	6	31
Port Talbot M.B.	51,310	756	14.7	14.6	0.86	557	10.9	14.8	1.25	17	22	27	35	15	19
South East Glamorgan—															
Barry M.B.	42,450	636	15.0	15.5	0.91	462	10.9	12.0	1.01	6	9	13	20	12	19
Cardiff Rural	28,030	536	19.1	17.6	1.04	338	12.1	13.3	1.12	8	15	9	17	5	9
Cowbridge M.B.	1,350	35	25.9	25.6	1.52	11	8.1	8.4	0.71	—	—	1	28	1	28
Cowbridge Rural	22,530	363	16.1	18.4	1.09	167	7.4	13.0	1.09	5	14	9	24	7	19
Penarth Urban	22,960	370	16.1	17.4	1.03	325	14.2	13.4	1.12	5	14	12	32	9	24
West Glamorgan—															
Gower Rural	15,960	256	16.0	16.8	0.99	171	10.7	12.0	1.01	2	8	4	16	2	8
Llwchwr Urban	26,080	408	15.6	16.7	0.99	321	12.3	13.5	1.14	7	17	16	38	12	29
Pontardawe Rural	29,680	409	13.8	15.6	13.8	408	13.7	14.3	1.20	5	12	13	31	9	22
Rhondda—															
Rhondda M.B.	95,590	1,320	13.8	14.2	0.84	1,404	14.7	16.8	1.41	39	30	50	37	24	18





# CLASSIFICATION OF DEATHS DURING 1968 as recorded by the Register General.

	Sex	Total all ages	Under 4 Weeks	4 Weeks & Under 1 Year	1—	5—	15—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65—	& 75 over
1	Enteritis and other diarrhoeal diseases	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	F	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3	Meningococcal infection	M	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1
4	Other infective and parasitic diseases	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
5	Malignant neoplasm—stomach	M	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6	Malignant neoplasm—lung, bronchus	F	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
7	Malignant neoplasm—breast	M	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
8	Malignant neoplasm—uterus	F	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	6	—
9	Leukaemia	F	17	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	5	8	4
10	Other malignant neoplasms, etc.	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
11	Diabetes mellitus	F	7	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
12	Other endocrine, etc., diseases	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
13	Anaemias	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
14	Other diseases of nervous system, etc.	F	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	Chronic rheumatic heart disease	M	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
16	Hypertensive disease	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
17	Ischaemic heart disease	M	8	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	3	3	1
18	Cerebrovascular disease	F	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
19	Other forms of heart disease	M	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	Other diseases of circulatory system	F	93	—	—	—	—	—	5	9	29	28	22
			52	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	6	16	27
			38	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	19	12
			33	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
			18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
			17	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	7	8	18
			10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
			7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

# CLASSIFICATION OF DEATHS DURING 1968—Continued.

		Sex	Total all ages	Under 4 Weeks	4 Weeks & Under 1 Year	1—	5—	AGE IN YEARS					65—	& 75 over
								15—	25—	35—	45—	55—		
21	Influenza .....	M	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	3
		F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
22	Pneumonia .....	M	19	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	13
		F	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	12
23	Bronchitis and emphysema .....	M	22	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	5	9	7
		F	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3
24	Asthma .....	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
		F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25	Other diseases of respiratory system .....	M	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	6	2
		F	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	4
26	Peptic ulcer .....	M	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1
		F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
27	Appendicitis .....	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
28	Intestinal obstruction and heria .....	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
		F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
29	Other diseases of digestive system .....	M	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
		F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
30	Nephritis and nephrosis .....	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
31	Hypersplasia of prostate .....	M	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
32	Other diseases, genito urinary system ...	M	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
		F	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	3
33	Congenital anomalies .....	M	3	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
		F	3	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
34	Birth injury, difficult labour, etc. ....	M	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		F	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35	Other causes of perinatal mortality .....	M	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		F	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
36	Symptoms and ill defined conditions .....	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
		F	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	1
37	Motor vehicle accidents .....	M	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		F	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	3	1	1	—
38	All other accidents .....	M	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		F	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
39	Suicide and self-inflicted injuries .....	M	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
40	All other external causes .....	M	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		M	324	6	2	3	3	1	2	16	28	60	104	99
		F	233	7	2	2	—	—	1	8	8	33	61	109
	TOTAL ALL CAUSES .....													

## PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The following table shows the incidence of infectious disease during 1968 as compared with 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966 and 1967.

Disease	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
Scarlet Fever	7	6	12	24	12	—
Whooping Cough	27	7	12	13	56	20
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	593	132	846	403	576	298
Meningococcal Infection	1	—	2	—	1	—
Dysentery	6	—	6	76	4	18
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	1	—	1
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid B.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric or Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	2	3	2	2
Undulant Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis (infectious)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	3	2	3	6	6	3
Infective Jaundice	—	—	—	—	—	14

### Distribution by Wards.

	Margam West	Margam Central	Margam North	Aberavon South	Aberavon North	Aberavon East	Aberavon West	Cwmavon	TOTALS
Whooping Cough	—	4	—	1	2	6	7	—	20
Measles	69	20	10	22	47	40	76	14	298
Dysentery	3	—	1	4	—	2	7	1	18
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Infective Jaundice	3	1	1	—	—	1	8	—	14
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
Pneumonia	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	3
Tuberculosis—									
Pulmonary	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Non-Pulmonary	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

### Poliomyelitis Vaccination.

During 1968, 775 persons completed their primary immunisation against poliomyelitis. Oral vaccine is now exclusively used in this area.

In addition reinforcing (booster) doses were given to 637 persons during the year.

**Poliomyelitis.**

No cases of Poliomyelitis were notified during 1968.

**Tuberculosis—B.C.G. Vaccination.**

This valuable form of protection against tuberculosis was made available to a further age group of school leavers, this being the fourteenth year of the scheme.

The parents of 1091 children agreed to the procedure and the children were given the preliminary skin test. Of this number 693 were found to need vaccination of which 692 submitted to and were duly vaccinated.

Those children who gave a positive reaction to the skin test were invited to the Chest Clinic where they were duly X-rayed. On this occasion 18 children required further examination and surveillance. No new case of active tuberculosis came to light.

**Diphtheria Immunisation.**

During the period under review 693 children received their primary course of injections, 614 of these being born in 1967 and 1968. Some 1,120 older children were given their booster injections.

**Whooping Cough.**

20 children were notified as suffering from Whooping Cough during 1968. The number given protective injections amounted to 645.

**Smallpox Vaccination.**

	No. Vaccinated	No. Re-Vaccinated
Under 1 year .....	13	1
1 year .....	46	1
2—4 years .....	98	1
5—15 years .....	31	41
15 years or over .....	—	—
TOTAL .....	188	44

**Tuberculosis.**

I append below particulars of the number of cases on the tuberculosis register at the beginning and at the end of the year, together with details of the notifications broken down into the various age groups



**Number of Cases on Register on 1st January, 1968—262.**

	Males	Females
Pulmonary .....	107	109
Non-Pulmonary .....	16	30
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>123</b>	<b>139</b>

**Number of cases on Register on 31st December, 1968—228.**

	Males	Females
Pulmonary .....	91	93
Non-Pulmonary .....	15	29
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>106</b>	<b>122</b>

Number of New Notifications .....	3
No. of In-Transfers .....	1
Number restored to Register .....	—
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>4</b>
Number left district .....	2
Number died .....	3
Number recovered .....	32
Number removed from Register—Diagnosis not confirmed .....	1
Unable to trace Patient .....	—
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>38</b>

**New Cases during 1968 (formally notified):—**

	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year .....	—	—	—	—
Over 1 year and under 5 years .....	—	—	—	—
Over 5 years and under 10 years .....	—	—	—	—
Over 10 years and under 15 years .....	—	—	—	—
Over 15 years and under 20 years .....	—	—	—	—
Over 20 years and under 25 years .....	—	—	—	—
Over 25 years and under 35 years .....	—	—	—	—
Over 35 years and under 45 years .....	—	1	—	—
Over 45 years and under 55 years .....	—	—	—	1
Over 55 years and under 65 years .....	—	—	—	—
Over 65 years .....	—	1	—	—
<b>Totals</b> .....	—	—	—	1

**Cases not formally notified (taken from local Registrar's returns):—3.**

## GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES

As members will be aware, in addition to serving this Authority as Medical Officer of Health, I am also responsible for the day to day administration of the services provided by the Glamorgan County Council in the Port Talbot and Glyncoirwg Health Division.

Whilst the Borough Council is responsible for environmental health, my duties as Divisional Medical Officer relate to the personal health and welfare of the population of the borough.

I give below certain statistical information relating to services provided by the Local Health Authority for information of those members of the Council who are not sitting members of the Divisional Health Committee:

### Domiciliary Midwifery Service.

Total domiciliary confinements .....	90
Doctor present .....	8

### Domiciliary Nursing Service.

Total number of patients .....	1,685
Types of cases:	
Medical or Surgical .....	1,668
Tuberculous .....	17
Total number of visits .....	39,057

### Medical Comforts.

Total Issues .....	692
--------------------	-----

### Home Help Service.

Total Part-Time and Casual Helps .....	104
Types of cases attended:	
Aged and Infirm .....	600
Chronic Sick and Tuberculosis .....	68
Mentally disordered .....	1
Maternity .....	9
Others .....	16
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>694</b>

Costs Charged:	No.	%
Full Cost .....	29	4.18
Part Cost .....	55	7.93
Free .....	610	87.89

### Night Sitter-In Service.

Total number of patients .....	53
Total number of hours allocated .....	2,051½

### Chiropody Service.

Total number of patients treated .....	1,200
Total number of Home Visits .....	1,760
Total number of Clinic Visits .....	3,180

## Clinic Services.

### Ante-Natal and Post Natal Clinics.

Number of Women who attended Ante-Natal Clinics .....	749
Number of Women who attended Post-Natal Clinics .....	97

### Infant Welfare Clinics.

Number of Children born in 1968 who attended Infant Welfare Clinics .....	867
Number of Children born in 1967 who attended Infant Welfare Clinics .....	885
Number of Children born in 1963/66 who attended Infant Welfare Clinics .....	985
Total .....	2,737

### Health Visitors.

Visits to Children born in 1968 .....	5,532
Visits to Children born in 1967 .....	4,862
Visits to Children born in 1963/1966 .....	5,554
Visits to Tuberculous households .....	559
Other Visits .....	6,624
Total .....	23,131

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

### Removal of Persons In need of Care and Attention.

It did not become necessary to institute statutory action under this enactment during 1968. The four cases that were considered under this category happily accepted voluntary admission and were readily received by the Welfare Service Department.

## HOUSING

During 1968, 246 permanent houses were completed of which 135 were built by the Council and 111 by other bodies or persons.

In order that easy comparison may be made I give below the figures for the past ten years in tabulated form.

Year.	Houses Completed by Local Authority.	Houses Completed by Others.	Total
1968 .....	135 .....	111 .....	246
1967 .....	229 .....	68 .....	297
1966 .....	167 .....	67 .....	234
1965 .....	349 .....	74 .....	423
1964 .....	188 .....	85 .....	273
1963 .....	100 .....	90 .....	190
1962 .....	245 .....	98 .....	343
1961 .....	223 .....	116 .....	339
1960 .....	210 .....	103 .....	313
1959 .....	256 .....	63 .....	319

The waiting list for re-housing by the Local Authority remains high. At the end of 1968 Mr. T. A. Colling, the Housing Manager, states that after an intensive screening of the lists of applications for rehousing held in his department 600 names remained on his file.

This compares with the waiting list for previous years thus:—

December 31st, 1967	700
1966	800
" " 1965	850
" " 1964	833
" " 1963	1,420
" " 1962	1,520
" " 1961	1,700
" " 1960	1,760
" " 1959	1,550
" " 1958	1,865

#### (I) Council dwellings let during the calendar year 1968

NEW DWELLINGS ALLOCATION				RE-LETS ALLOCATIONS			
General Needs	Removal of Temp. Bungalows	Rehousing from S/Std. properties	TOTAL	General Needs	Removal of Temp. Bungalows	Rehousing from S/Std. properties	TOTAL
70	30	35	135	160	23	19	202

The total of 202 dwellings becoming available for re-letting is made up as follows:—

(1) Tenants moving into alternative accommodation with the Borough	105
(2) Tenants moving outside the Borough	74
(3) Properties becoming vacant upon the deaths of tenants	18
(4) Evictions	5
	202

(ii) Total number of applications for Council housing accommodation received during the calendar year, 1968 231

I give below a table that gives an indication of some of the special categories of applicants where re-housing was affected during the period under review.

Families suffering from or exposed to Tuberculosis	5
Families from Condemned Houses	54
Families from overcrowded houses	4
Key Workers in Industry	24
Prefabricated bungalows	53



**Housing Act, 1936—Part IV. Overcrowding.**

No cases of statutory overcrowding within the meaning of the Act were brought to the notice of the Department during the period under review.

To date, this Authority has not taken action in the declaration of improvement areas. Houses in multiple occupation provide only a limited problem in Port Talbot as compared with other larger towns, and close surveyance is possible of such places. Three such houses were closed under Part II of the Housing Act as being unfit for human habitation.

**WATER SUPPLIES**

As members will know, the West Glamorgan Water Board is generally responsible for the water supplies within the area of the borough. Mr. R. J. Lillicrap, Engineer and Manager, and I keep in close touch on all matters pertaining to supply and samples of water are taken for bacteriological and chemical analysis by the Board itself and spot checks are taken on my behalf by members of the Public Health Inspectorate. Details of the bacteriological and chemical analyses are included in Mr. Carter's section of this report.

Mr. Lillicrap has kindly submitted the following particulars for inclusion in this Annual Report:

"The quality of water supplied has been satisfactory throughout the year. Water samples were taken from all sources and along the distribution system at regular intervals by the Board's Chemist and subjected to bacteriological and chemical analysis. Five doubtful samples were found in samples originating from the local sources, and three from the River Neath source. In all cases repeat samples were satisfactory. The doubtful samples were taken after a landslide had occurred along the Forestry road above Cwmwernderi Reservoir, resulting in serious discolouration of the water for some days, and again from the same source later in the year after heavy rains brought more of the loosened material into the reservoir at the upper reaches. The Forestry Commission have since effected repairs and improvements to the roadways and cross-drains in the gathering ground which should, it is hoped, prevent a recurrence of this trouble.

At no time were any restrictions imposed, although some difficulties were experienced at times in maintaining a continuous supply in the Baglan area. This has now been largely overcome by the provision of a new and more efficient pumping arrangement and control from the Cwmavon Pumping Station to Baglan Tank.

Number of dwelling houses supplied direct .....	17,014
Population supplied direct .....	52,100
Houses supplied via standpipes .....	Nil

The Board does not test for Fluoride Content in the various sources.



Improvements have been carried out in parts of the area. New pumps and control system installed at Cwmavon and Baglan Tank, and pumps have been installed at Upper Ty Canol to improve the supply to Baglan School area and at Lower Ty Canol to improve the supply to the areas of 250' A.O.D."

### RAINFALL

Month	Rainfall in inches Town Centre
January	3.90
February	1.57
March	2.24
April	2.54
May	3.26
June	5.10
July	4.48
August	1.64
September	6.30
October	4.86
November	2.80
December	3.94

### GENERAL INFORMATION.

#### Education.

The following information has been provided by Mr. Eben Jones, the Divisional Education Officer:—

1. Average number of pupils attending primary and secondary secondary schools in the Borough during 1968 ..... 10,536
2. Daily average number of pupils receiving school meals during 1968 ..... 4,494
3. Daily average number of pupils receiving milk in school 1968 ..... 6,386

## Children's Department.

Mr. W. D. Davies, the Glamorgan County Council Children's Officer, has kindly supplied the following details:—

1. Number of children admitted to Children's Homes in 1968	39
2. Number of children admitted to Residential Establishments	17
3. Number of children boarded-out .....	22
4. Number of children admitted to Approved Schools in 1968	5

## Juvenile Court.

Mr. P. H. R. Thomas, the Clerk to the Court, states that 251 children between the ages of eight and seventeen years were brought before the Juvenile Court during 1968.

## Welfare Services. Part III—Accommodation.

11 males and 21 females from Port Talbot were admitted to County Council Hostels during 1968.

	Male.	Female.
"Troed y Ton", Kenfig Hill .....	—	7
"Glanyrafan", Ynysawdre .....	—	1
"Moorlands", Porthcawl .....	—	3
"Mor Awelan", Port Talbot .....	3	4
"Morfa Afan", Port Talbot .....	6	6
"Arwelfa" Cymmer, Port Talbot .....	1	—
"Trem y Mor", Bettws .....	1	—
	<hr/> 11	<hr/> 21

At the end of the year the number on the waiting list for admission were 13 females and 11 males.

## Employment of Disabled Persons.

	Male.	Female.
Number Registered Disabled in December, 1968	798	91
Number Registered Disabled placed in Employment in 1968 .....	95	16
Number Registered Disabled wholly Unemployed in December, 1968 .....	125	19

I append below details of the unemployment figures for Port Talbot for the past ten years:—

		Male.	Female.
December, 1959	.....	225	70
" 1960	.....	188	70
" 1961	.....	276	137
" 1962	.....	439	137
" 1963	.....	361	153
" 1964	.....	338	146
" 1965	.....	458	195
" 1966	.....	853	230
" 1967	.....	563	277
" 1968	.....	658	242

## INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

In my communications with Mr. Philip R. Locke, the Secretary of the British Corporation, consideration has been given to the actions being taken by the Corporation towards the production of atmospheric pollution and Mr. Locke has kindly submitted the following particulars for inclusion in this Annual Report:

"(1) The new Basic Oxygen Steelplant is scheduled to commence operations in August, 1969.

This plant is designed to conform with the Alkali Inspector's requirement of maintaining a fume concentration emission of less than 05 grains per cu.ft.

The LN Steel plant, the worst production unit offender with regard to atmospheric pollution, is planned to shut down two weeks in advance of B.O.S. Plant start up.

(2) At the Coke Oven Plant, 30 ovens of the No. 2 Battery have been rebuilt and it is planned to shut down another 30 ovens at the beginning of August prior to a rebuild. This should then result in a clear stack for No. 2 Battery after August of this year. An additional benefit from this work will be conditions at the top of the ovens should improve towards the end of the year and will enable

the available labour force to be concentrated on repairs and maintenance of No. 4 Battery and so achieve an improvement on this battery also.

After the above work is completed a further 30 ovens will be rebuilt."

It is hoped that in addition to improving productivity it is anticipated that these works will have a marked beneficial effect upon the condition of the atmosphere in and around the plant.

Whilst this activity has been going on Dr. Richard B. Body, Chief Medical Officer, is pleased to inform me that major improvements have taken place in the Medical Department and he has submitted the following details for inclusion in this report:

- "1. **18th July, 1968.** The old Margam Surgery, near the Gate, was removed to more modern and improved accommodation in part of the Transport Building in the adjacent block.
2. During the year a Main Surgery for the Abbey Works was commenced and completed, and the Chief Medical Officer, his staff, Physiotherapy facilities, Medical Records, facilities for initial examination of new employees, X-ray, etc., were transferred to the centre of the Plant in the new Central Surgery block in September, 1968. Here, too, were located on radio control, the Company's ambulances, so that they could be more easily be called from the Centre to any point on the periphery.
3. Also in September was completed new Surgery arrangements in the Abbey General Offices sufficient for dealing with requirements under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963. This serves the General Office Block, the Temporary offices, the Research Block and the Computer Block, and neighbouring area.

4. During the year complete air conditioning was installed in the No. 4 Surgery, which was subsequently re-decorated. This is located in Margam in the centre of the Ore Preparation area, which is essentially a dusty part of the Plant, and air conditioning had been made necessary by bringing the Ore Preparation procedures in closer proximity with this Surgery. The result of air conditioning means increased efficiency and decreased dangers from wound contamination."

These improvements will, without doubt, improve the service leading to the wellbeing of all operatives on the plant and I am very happy to place these on record.





**BOROUGH OF PORT TALBOT**

# **Annual Report**

of the

**Chief Public Health Inspector**

**For the Year ended 31st December**

**1968**

## BOROUGH OF PORT TALBOT

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough  
of Port Talbot

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Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my pleasure to present to you my Annual Report for the year 1968. The report is the seventh I have produced during my term of office.

1968 was the first year for some little while that we were able to function throughout with a full complement of staff. We were able to take advantage of this and proceed to deal with a number of matters which for a time could not be attended to as well as we wanted.

Whether or not certain improvements manifested themselves as a result of publicity over recent years in the matter of foods being adulterated with foreign materials, one could not say, but it is true that in 1968 we had less of this trouble than in the previous years. In a cautionary way this is satisfactory to report. More care we hope was exercised by shopkeepers and food handlers and if good attention is also paid to proper stock rotation, then the risk of complaint is much reduced. It is too soon, of course, to judge whether the improvements will continue but we can hope that they will.

A feature which came much to the forefront during the year was that of the excessive amount of indiscriminate refuse tipping. This unfortunately is done in many parts of the Borough, including waste and open ground, railway embankments and river banks. A great deal of publicity was forthcoming as a result of committee's consideration of these unsatisfactory practices, and the appropriate committee gave thought to the best methods of informing the public of its concern.

Progress in the matter of dealing with sub-standard housing continued at the normal tempo, and details of this are found in the appropriate section of this report.

The committee's structure of the Authority was changed during the year, and the alterations so far as the department was concerned, involved the amalgamation of the former Public Health, Offices and Shops Committee and the housing part of the Housing and Town Planning Committee. One's feelings about the change is that it was for the good with much necessary stream lining of action performed.

The work of the department cannot function well without the constant loyalty of all the staff, and this, as always, was forthcoming. It is pleasant to record the continued co-operation that existed with the Town Clerk, Medical Officer of Health and all officials of Council. My thanks are extended to the Chairman and Deputy Chairman on the Public Health and Housing Committee.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen.

LESLIE J. CARTER,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

Report of Chief Public Health Inspector under the Public Health,  
Factories and Housing Acts, etc.

**GENERAL INSPECTION OF DISTRICT**

Housing Inspections and Re-inspections .....	2,886
Structural Defects .....	1,201
Drains, Yards, Urinals, W.C's, etc. ....	504
Amusement Houses, Cinemas, etc. ....	30
Verminous Premises .....	84
Dirty Conditions .....	76
Accumulations .....	300
Ashpits, Privies and Cesspools (Refuse Tips) .....	87
Tents, Vans and Sheds .....	168
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops .....	100
Food Premises, Kitchens and Vehicles .....	1,062
Houses let in Lodgings, Tenements, etc. ....	23
Offensive Trades .....	26
Factories .....	144
Fish Friers .....	63
Ice-cream Premises .....	129
Bakehouses .....	36
Want of Cleanliness .....	19
Overcrowding .....	3
Unreasonable Temperature .....	6
Inadequate Ventilation .....	3
Insufficient Sanitary Accommodation .....	5
Other Offences .....	12
Pigstyes and Swine Keeping .....	50
Stables, Refuse and Manure .....	13
Rats and Mice .....	8,946
Smoke Nuisances .....	40
Animals .....	28
Meat Inspections .....	526
Slaughterhouse, Other than Meat Inspection .....	79

Water Sampling—	
Bacteriological .....	357
Chemical .....	196
Food and Drug Sampling .....	315
Schools .....	25
Water Courses .....	10
Milk Sampling (Bacteriological) .....	44
Ice Cream Sampling .....	17
Interviews with Owners, etc. ....	630
Atmospheric Pollution Recordings .....	1,840
Court Cases .....	1
Public Houses .....	95
Infectious Diseases .....	7
Re-visits to Shops and Offices .....	298
Plans .....	69
Noise Nuisances .....	41
Dust Nuisances .....	4
Beach (Sea Pollution) .....	1
Hairdressers .....	36
Scrap Metal Dealers .....	32
Mobile Vehicles .....	48

## HOUSING INSPECTIONS

Number of houses inspected for defects under the Public Health and Housing Acts .....	364
Number of visits of inspection in respect of same .....	2,886
Number of houses found unfit for human habitation .....	94
Number of houses found not in all respects to be reasonably fit for human habitation .....	270
Number of houses rendered fit after service of Notices .....	216



The number of nuisances discovered, together with the number of Notices served during the year were as follows:—

Nature of Inspection	Nuisances discovered	Informal Notices served	Abatement Notices served
Structural Defects .....	181 .....	181 .....	15 .....
Drains, Yards, etc. ....	193 .....	193 .....	— .....
Dirty Conditions, etc. ....	23 .....	23 .....	— .....
Pigstyes and Swine .....	4 .....	4 .....	— .....
Food Premises .....	87 .....	87 .....	— .....
Rats and Mice .....	61 .....	61 .....	— .....
Accumulations .....	143 .....	143 .....	— .....
Verminous Premises .....	36 .....	36 .....	— .....
Verminous Persons .....	— .....	— .....	— .....
Stables and Manure .....	2 .....	2 .....	— .....
Improper Keeping of Animals .....	6 .....	6 .....	— .....
Tents, Vans and Sheds .....	11 .....	11 .....	— .....
Overcrowding .....	3 .....	3 .....	— .....
Smoke Nuisances .....	15 .....	15 .....	— .....
Noise Nuisances .....	18 .....	18 .....	— .....
Dust Nuisances .....	4 .....	4 .....	— .....
Redecoration .....	4 .....	4 .....	— .....
<b>TOTALS .....</b>	<b>791 .....</b>	<b>791 .....</b>	<b>15 .....</b>

The nature of the work carried out to abate the various nuisances and contraventions was as follows:-

**Houses:** Roofs repaired 27; Walls repaired 27; Wallplaster renewed 49; Chimney Stacks repaired 7; Ceilings repaired 16; Floors repaired 15; Dampness remedied 54; Windows repaired 35; Water service pipes repaired 6; Fireplaces repaired 7; Staircases repaired 2.

**Drainage:** Eaves gutters repaired or renewed 31; Inspection chambers renewed or repaired 23; Vent pipes repaired or renewed 12; Baths repaired 1; Drains relaid or repaired 9; Drains cleared 22; Drains tested 146; (smoke 52; Colour 94).

**Toilet Fittings, etc.:** W.C. Cisterns renewed or repaired 23; W.C. pans renewed 26; Sink waste pipes unblocked 13; new gullies provided 18; New Sinks provided 8.

**Verminous and dirty houses:** Bed Bugs; Number of houses infested 9; Number of houses disinfested by Local Authority 9.  
Ants: Number of houses infested 252; Number of houses disinfested by Local Authority 252.

In addition 5 houses were treated for woodworm, 4 for wasps and 9 for silverfish.

Accumulations: Accumulations removed 300.

**Food Premises:** Redecoration carried out 35; Cleanliness improved 59; Washing facilities provided or improved 18; Nailbrushes provided 40; Provision of refuse receptacles 30; Protection of food from risk of contamination 79.

**Food Vehicles:** Number inspected 89; Name and address provided 48; Hot and cold water provided 12; Provision of nailbrushes, etc., 15; Protection of food from risk of contamination 17; Provision of refuse receptacles 16.

## **SLAUGHTERING FACILITIES AND MEAT INSPECTIONS**

### **Meat Inspection Regulations 1963**

In 1968 there was a further increase in the number of animals slaughtered at the private abattoir in Port Talbot. There was a grand total of 38,806 animals killed as compared with 29,087 in 1967.

The slaughter of bulls, bullocks and heifers increased from 1,954 to 2,532 that of cows from 101 to 388; sheep from 20,219 to 25,898; pigs from 5,982 to 9,375; the only decrease was in the number of calves slaughtered. This showed a slight decrease from 831 to 613.

The charges for meat inspection continued at 50% of the maximum allowed under the Meat Regulations 1963, however, there is this year a probability of an increase of 12½%.

The record of the number of animals killed week by week is shown on pages 36 to 37. The following also gives comparative figures for the previous ten years:-

1959	12,590	1964	12,672
1960	11,549	1965	12,866
1961	13,019	1966	14,892
1962	12,746	1967	29,087
1963	12,349	1968	38,806

# SLAUGHTERHOUSE MEAT CONDEMNATIONS FOR YEAR 1968

## Bulls, Bullocks and Helpers

### TUBERCULOSIS:

1 Carcase and all organs	— T.B. with emaciation.
1 Lung	— T.B.
2 Heads	— T.B.
1 Liver	— T.B.
1 Part Hind	— T.B.

### DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS:

1 Carcase	— 1 Cysticercus Bovis.
1 Carcase and all offal	— Emaciation.
18 Heads and Tongues	— 1 Bruising; 4 Cysticercus Bovis; 7 Actinomycosis; 6 Actinobacillosis.
3 Hearts	— 1 Pericarditis; 2 Cysticercus Bovis.
364 Lungs	— 190 Pleurisy; 69 Hydatid Cysts; 7 Abscess; 30 Congested; 61 Pneumonia; 6 Parasitic; 1 Emphysema.
881 Livers	— 778 Distomatosis; 9 Cavernous Angiomata; 72 Abscess; 3 Cirrhosis; 17 Hydatid Cyst; 1 Peritonitis; 1 Parasitic.
188 Part Livers	— 187 Distomatosis; 1 Abscess;
9 Spleens	— 4 Inflammation; 3 Peritonitis; 1 Haemorrhagic; 1 Cystic.
1 Skirt	— Abscess.
3 Intestines	— 1 Inflammation; 2 Cysticercus Bovis.
1 Stomach and Intestines	— Abscess.

### Cows

1 Head	— Abscess.
42 Lungs	— 28 Pleurisy; 14 Hydatid Cysts.
3 Part Livers	— 3 Distomatosis.
70 Livers	— 44 Distomatosis; 7 Cavernous Angiomata; 13 Abscess; 6 Hydatid Cysts.

### Calves

2 Lungs	— Pneumonia.
2 Kidneys	— Petechial Haemorrhages.

### Pigs

TUBERCULOSIS: 105 Heads, 1 leg.

## DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS:

1 Carcase	— Pathological Emaciation.
3 Carcasses and offal	— 1 Septic; 1 Bruising; 1 Moribund.
1 Hind Leg	— Arthritis.
1 Foreleg	— Abscess.
1 Head	— Ulcerous.
3145 Lungs	— 1157 Congested; 1949 Pneumonia; 37 Pleurisy; 2 Abscess.
985 Livers	— 12 Cystic; 958 Ascaris Lumbricoides; 1 Necrosis; 13 Peritonitis; 1 Parasitic.
45 Hearts	— 42 Pericarditis; 1 Peritonitis; 1 Pleurisy.
14 Kidneys	— 1 Retention Cyst; 4 Nephritis; 7 Hydronephrosis; 1 Infarcts.
23 Spleens	— 5 Peritonitis; 1 Inflammation; 12 Cystic; 2 Abscess; 1 Infarcts; 2 Tenuicollis Cysts.
16 Stomachs and Intestines	— 12 Peritonitis; 4 Tenuicollis Cysts.
36 Plucks	— Pleurisy and Perintonitis.

## Sheep

4 Carcasses	— 1 Abscess; 1 Dropsy; 1 Gangrene; 1 Dead—Liver condition.
2 Carcasses and offal	— 1 Moribund; 1 Cysticercus Bovis.
1 Shoulder	— Bruising.
1 Leg	— Arthritis.
1 Foreleg	— Bruising.
4739 Lungs	— 224 Strongyli; 2613 Parasitic; 1507 Pneumonia; 17 Cysts; 334 Congested; 44 Pleurisy.
3760 Livers	— 1776 Distomatosis; 1855 Parasitic; 7 Peritonitis; 112 Tenuicollis Cysts; 8 Abscess; 2 Cirrhosis.
22 Plucks	— 18 Pleurisy and Perintonitis; 4 Cystic.
1 Intestine	— Peritonitis.
1 Spleen	— Peritonitis.
4 Stomach and Intestines	— 2 Peritonitis; 1 Cystic; 1 Inflammation.
20 Hearts	— 16 Pericarditis; 4 T. Ovis.

The percentage figures of diseased animals over a period of years are as follows:—

### Tuberculosis

Year.	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
1959	16.25	—	—	—	2.4
1960	.67	—	—	—	1.82
1961	.093	—	—	—	2.81
1962	0.61	—	—	—	1.07
1963	0.24	—	—	—	1.19
1964	0.08	—	—	—	1.07
1965	—	—	—	—	0.57
1966	—	—	—	—	.60
1967	—	—	—	—	1.38
1968	0.2	—	—	—	1.1

### Diseases other than Tuberculosis

Year.	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs
1959	50.7	50.0	2.0	21.3	27.6
1960	43.19	50.0	1.86	12.9	28.02
1961	32.92	40.0	.79	14.6	35.57
1962	26.86	10.0	1.5	16.01	38.55
1963	28.96	—	0.95	17.86	43.55
1964	45.84	—	—	27.98	36.42
1965	50.2	—	—	33.88	38.8
1966	56.2	48.2	—	36.5	40.63
1967	58.49	56.43	0.32	32.65	44.6
1968	58.01	29.4	0.7	32.90	45.52

### Bovine Cysticercosis

Year	CATTLE OTHER THAN COWS.			COWS.		
	Examined	Affected	Percentage	Examined	Affected	Percentage
1959	785	11	1.4	2	—	—
1960	889	11	1.23	2	—	—
1961	1969	10	.93	5	—	—
1962	983	3	0.31	10	—	—
1963	1257	13	1.03	4	—	—
1964	1263	9	0.71	—	—	—
1965	1032	2	0.19	81	—	—
1966	1031	6	0.58	86	—	—
1967	1954	10	0.51	101	—	—
1968	2532	—	0.4	388	—	—



**UN SOUND OR UNWHOLESOME FOOD CONDEMNED OR SURRENDERED  
FROM FOOD PREMISES THROUGHOUT THE BOROUGH DURING  
THE YEAR**

As in previous years shopkeepers bring to the Department any unsound food which they have on their premises in order that we may give surrender notes for them. This is the best system that can be devised as shopkeepers are by this means enabled to have the incentive to rotate their stock and to extract from it any doubtful canned foods or otherwise unsound food which they may have on the premises.

**Fish:** 5 cwt. 42 lbs.

**Raw Meat:** 6 cwt. 13 lbs.

**Tinned Meat:** 1 ton 9 cwt. 91 lbs.

**Tinned Foods:** 1 ton 6 cwt. 94 lbs.

# ANNUAL SLAUGHTERING RETURNS

The weekly slaughtering returns for 1968 were as follow:—

1968 Week Ending	BULLS, BULLOCKS AND HEIFERS												COWS				CALVES				SHEEP				PIGS			
	Weekly Totals	Monthly Totals	Weekly Totals	Monthly Totals	Weekly Totals	Monthly Totals	Weekly Totals	Monthly Totals	Weekly Totals	Monthly Totals	Weekly Totals	Monthly Totals	Weekly Totals	Monthly Totals	Weekly Totals	Monthly Totals	Weekly Totals	Monthly Totals	Weekly Totals	Monthly Totals	Weekly Totals	Monthly Totals	Weekly Totals	Monthly Totals	Weekly Totals	Monthly Totals	Weekly Totals	Monthly Totals
Jan. 7	873		65		16		13		637		142																	
14	955		49		20		13		704		169																	
21	843		41		25		5		595		177																	
28	735		42		19		11		492		171																	
31	451	3857	17	214	15	95	14	56	286	2714	119	778																
Feb. 4	239		30		5		5		161		38																	
11	626		50		13		18		367		178																	
18	595		48		4		14		354		175																	
25	557		47		13		32		309		166																	
29	355	2372	29	418	12	142	17	132	209	4114	88	1423																
March 3	130		18		—		—		51		61																	
10	448		49		15		13		212		159																	
17	463		57		12		21		230		143																	
24	463		59		18		30		198		168																	
31	408	1912	48	649	14	191	21	217	148	4953	177	2131																
April 7	471		48		12		37		215		159																	
14	394		53		—		14		127		200																	
21	362		33		2		8		179		140																	
28	510		58		1		11		265		175																	
30	262	1999	18	859	—	206	2	289	145	5884	97	2902																
May 5	233		29		—		2		115		87																	
12	492		50		1		14		263		164																	
19	504		44		5		11		271		173																	
26	523		47		—		2		311		163																	
31	444	2196	39	1068	2	214	12	330	235	7079	156	3645																
June 2	44		7		—		—		37		—																	
9	552		33		2		10		355		152																	
16	627		49		—		6		426		146																	
23	641		48		5		8		437		143																	
30	623	2487	39	1244	—	221	3	357	448	8782	133	4219																
July 7	645		45		1		5		418		176																	
	737		48		1		8		515		165																	
	769		46		7		—		540		176																	
	747		46		—		9		542		150																	
	516	3414	12	1441	—	230	6	385	405	11202	93	4979																



### Summary of Annual Slaughter

Bulls, Bullocks and Heifers	2,532
Cows	388
Calves	613
Sheep	25,898
Pigs	9,375

### Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condenned in Whole or in Part during 1968

		Bulls, Bullocks and Heifers	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number Killed		2,532	388	613	25,898	9,375
Number Inspected		2,532	388	613	25,898	9,375
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS & CYSTICERCOSIS.						
Whole carcases condemned		2	—	—	6	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned		1468	114	4	8540	4267
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis		58.01	29.4	0.7	32.90	45.52
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY.						
Whole Carcases condemned		1	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part of organ was condemned		5	—	—	—	104
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis		0.2	—	—	—	1.1
CYSTICERCOSIS.						
Generalised and totally condemned		1	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ affected		4	—	—	—	—
Cases submitted to treatment by refrigeration		4	—	—	—	—
Percentage on number inspected affected with Cysticercosis		0.4	—	—	—	—

## FOOD SUBMITTED FOR ANALYSIS

### Inspection and Sampling of Food and Drugs to safeguard quality, description, etc.

During the year 315 samples of various foods and drugs were taken and submitted to the Public Analyst at the County Public Health Laboratory Cardiff.

Twelve of these samples were found to be adulterated or otherwise unsatisfactory.

The number of samples that we take is one which is satisfactory for the population of the Borough, and as always we spread the sampling over the whole Borough and endeavour to see that the variety of foods and drugs is as wide as possible.

The number and variety of foods submitted for analysis were as follows:-

Apple Sauce, Canned 1; Baby Food, Canned 2; Baby Food Bottled 1; Beans, Broad, Canned 1; Beans, Butter, Canned 2; Beans, Baked, in Tomato Sauce 2; Beans, Baked, and Pork Sausages, with Tomato Sauce 1; Beans, Baked, 1; Beer, Canned 1; Beetroot, Bottled 1; Biscuits 1; Blancmange Powder 1; Brandy 1; Bread 2; Brisling, Canned 1; Butter 5; Buttermilk, Cultured 1; Chestnut puree, Canned 1; Cheese Cheddar 2; Cheese Cottage 1; Cheese Spread 1; Cheese processed with Salami 1; Cheese, Spread with Piccalilli 1; Cherries Cocktail 1; Cherries glaze; Chocolate, Orange flavoured, milk 1; Chutney 2; Chutney Mango 1; Coconut dessicated 1; Cognac 1; Christmas Pudding 2; Cockles, Pickled 1; Socoa 1; Coffee, fresh ground 1; Colouring food 2; Cornflour 1; Cream 2; Cream, sterilised 1; Curry, with Chicken and Mushrooms, Canned 1; Curry Prawn with Rice 1; Curry Sauce and Powder 1; Custard Powder 2; Custard Canned 3; Dessert Powder 1; Fat Compound 1; Fish Paste 4; Flan Mix 1; Fruit Pudding Canned 2; Fruit juice, Canned 1; Fruit Salad, Canned 2; Flour, Self raising 1; Flour whole wheat 1; Flour, plain 1; Food Flavouring 2; Gin 5; Glucose Sweets 1; Glucose Barley Sugar Drops 1; Gooseberries, Canned 1; Gravy Browning 1; Horse Radish Relish 2; Honey 1; Herbs mixed 1; Ice cream 17; Ice Cream Powder 1; Jam 1; Jelly, preserved 1; Lard 2; Macaroni, Creamed, Canned 2; Margarine 5; Margarine, Corn Oil 1; Marzipan 3; Milk 40; Milk Shake Flavouring 2; Milk, Skimmed Instant 2; Milk, Channel Islands 4; Milk, full Cream, Evaporated, Unsweetened 2; Milk, Condensed, Full Cream Sweetened 1; Milk, Diet Supplement 1; Mustard Sauce 1; Mushrooms, Canned 1; Oranges, Canned 1; Onions, Cocktail 1; Peas, Processed, Canned 2; Pie Fillings, Canned 1; Pilchards, Canned 1; Potatoes, Canned 1; Potato, Instant 1; Preserve, Strawberry Jelly 1; Potato Salad, Canned 1; Raisins 1; Ravioli, Beef, Canned 1; Rice 2; Rice, Milk Pudding, Creamed, Canned 1; Sauce 1; Sauce Mix 1; Sacharine Sodium Tablets 1; Sago 1; Soft Drink 3; Sherry, French, Dressing 1; Spaghetti Rings 1; Spaghetti Milanses, Canned 1; Semolina Pudding, Creamed, Canned 1; Stuffing 1; Sauce 2; Soup 1; Soup Canned 4; Shrimps, Canned 1; Snack Meal, Canned 2; Sugar, Demerara 1; Table Jelly 3; Tapioca Flakes 1; Tea 2; Tomato Ketchup 1; Tomato Piquant 1; Tomatoes, Canned 1; Vegetables, Canned 1; Veg Salad, Canned 1; Veg, Mixed Canned 1; Vinegar, Malt 3; Vodka 2; Whisky 4; Yoghurt 2.



## Meat and Meat Products

Beef, Braised, Sliced 1; Beef, Potted, 1; Beef with veg and gravy, Canned 1; Beef Mixed with Onions and Gravy 1; Beef Curry with Rice 1; Corned Beef 6; Chicken Breast in Jelly 1; Chicken Sliced in Natural Juices 1; Chicken Fillet in Chicken Jelly 1; Chicken Delight, Canned 2; Faggots 1; Ham Roll with egg, Canned 1; Ham and Beef Roll, Canned 2; Hamburgers with Gravy, Canned 4; Luncheon Meat Spread 1; Luncheon Meat, Canned 1; Meat Paste 1; Meat Canned 1; Meat, Extract 1; Meat Minced Loaf, Canned 1; Pate de Foie, Canned 1; Pineapple and Apricot 1; Pilchards 1; Pork, Chopped, Canned 2; Pork, Stuffed Roll, Canned 1; Pork Luncheon Meat 2; Sausage Beef 4; Sausage Pork 3; Sausage Roll 2; Sausages, Mixed Meat, 1; Sardines 1; Steakburger and Onions, Canned 1; Steak Stewed with Gravy, Canned 4; Steak and Kidney Pie 4; Steak with Onions and Gravy, Canned 1; Steak Stewed, Canned 1; Steak and Kidney Pudding, Canned 1; Steak Pudding, Canned 1; Tongue, Canned 3; Veal, Curry, Canned 1.

## Drugs and Medicinal Preparations

Analgesic Tablets 1; Cetavlon PC 1; Caffein Tablets 1; Calcium Drink Powder with Vitamin C 1; Chloramphenicol Capsules 1; Digoxin Tablets 1; Pento Barbitone Capsules 1; Liquid Paraffin Emulsion with Phonolphthalein 1; Menthol and Eucalyptus inhalation BPC 1; Vitamin Capsules 1; Vitamin Syrup 1.

Total Number of Samples .....	315
Genuine .....	303
Adulterated or otherwise unsatisfactory .....	12

This figure of 12 includes 8 samples which were submitted as special samples resulting upon complaints by residents in the Town about food containing foreign material. The remaining 4 adulterated samples were as reported by the Public Analyst following normal sampling. Any proceedings taken as a result of adulterations will be found in the report on Magisterial Court Proceedings on page .

The private samples submitted to the Public Analyst which were as a result of complaints were as follows:-

A steak and kidney pie containing a piece of meat with hair attached; A tin of corned beef with a piece of cement embedded in it; a tin of pork with an offensive smell; a milk bottle with a brown stain inside consisting essentially of oxide of iron; a tin of Stewed Steak containing a piece of wire; A tin of corned beef stained with iron sulphide; a tin of baked beans containing an insect; a tin of casserole meat containing part of a moth; an apple pie filling with wire inside; a fillet of plaice with mouse droppings; Two tubs of yoghurt with mould; a sausage roll containing the larvae of a flour moth.

All incidents of this kind are reported to the Public Health Offices and Shops Committee, and action taken in accordance with their instructions.

The comparison with previous years is as follows:-

Year	No. of Samples taken.	Genuine.	Not Genuine
1958	337	326	11
1959	307	304	3
1960	307	305	2
1961	308	307	1
1962	308	306	2
1963	323	320	3
1964	327	320	7
1965	312	311	1
1966	299	289	10
1967	317	300	17
1968	315	303	12

Number of samples taken per 1,000 of population—Estimated  
52,000 6.17

Percentage of Milks taken not conforming to standards in relation  
to number taken Nil.

Percentage of Foods other than Milk not conforming to standards in  
relation to number taken 2.97

This latter percentage does not include the eight samples which were  
taken as a result of private complaints.

### FOOD STANDARDS

Two samples of meat products were adversely reported upon by the  
Public Analyst. The Committee issued warnings pending the coming into  
operation of the Canned Meat Products Regulations, 1967, on the 31st May,  
1969.

### PUBLIC HEALTH REGULATIONS

Certain other general public health regulations such as those with  
anti-oxidants, preservatives, colouring matters, lead and arsenic emulsifiers  
and stabilisers were taken into consideration in the analysis of all samples,  
all of which complied with the regulations.

### LABELLING

All the samples complied with the requirements of the Labelling of  
Food Order 1953.

### THE PRESERVATIVES IN FOOD REGULATIONS, 1962 MILK AND DAIRIES (PRESERVATIVES) REGULATIONS, 1962

#### Milk:

All the samples of milk, condensed milk, cream and ice-cream were  
free from preservatives and colouring matters.

#### Drugs and Medicinal Preparations:

All samples of drugs were recorded as satisfactory and complied  
with standards as described in the British Pharmacopeia of the require-  
ments of the Pharmacy and Medicines Act, 1941, and were pure for  
pharmaceutical purposes.

### The Sale of Milk Regulations

The Regulations provide that unless milk contains a minimum of 3% fat and 8.5% solids other than milk fat it shall be presumed—unless the contrary is proved—that the milk is not genuine. The average percentage composition of the whole of the milk samples in the Borough of Port Talbot in 1968 was as follows:-

	Number of Milk samples taken.	Milk fat Percentage.	Non-fatty solids— Percentage.
Home .....	39	3.71	8.64
Channel Isles .....	6	4.87	9.07

The figures for the ten previous years were as follows:-

Year	No. of milk samples examined	Milk fat percentage	Non-fatty solids— percentage
1958 .....	59	3.66%	8.45%
1959 .....	40	3.77%	8.64%
1960 .....	62	3.66%	8.65%
1961 .....	44	3.71%	8.64%
1962 .....	44	3.75%	8.69%
1963 .....	65	3.73%	8.65%
1964 .....	56	3.72%	8.60%
1965 .....	48	3.83%	8.64%
1966 .....	60	3.82%	8.75%
1967 .....	57	4.72%	8.78%

### THE MILK AND DAIRIES (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 1959 THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) REGULATIONS 1960 THE MILK AND DAIRIES (CHANNEL ISLANDS AND SOUTH DEVON MILK). REGULATIONS, 1956

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food remain responsible for duties in connection with dairy farms, and the registration of persons carrying on or proposing to engage in the business of the dairy farmer.

The Local Authority's duties are to enforce the Regulations relative to the treatment and handling of milk; the provisions regarding the infection of milk and protection against contamination, the cleansing and storage of vessels, utensils and appliances, the conveyance and distribution of milk, the registration of dairies other than dairy farms and of distributors.

The number of Licences granted for the sale of pasteurised, sterilised, and tuberculin tested milk in the Borough is 56.

All dairies and milk shops, etc., were regularly inspected throughout the year. Sampling of milk sold from wholesale and retail establishments and during delivery to various parts of the Borough was maintained. The number of samples procured, the examination undertaken, and the result of such examination were as follows:—

**Milk Sampled for Bacteriological Purposes:**

	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.
Pasteurised .....	16	1
C.1. Pasteurised .....	6	—
Sterilised .....	9	—
Homogenised Pasteurised .....	11	1
	<hr/> 42	<hr/> 2

**Milk Sampled for Adulteration:**

Pasteurised .....	18	—
C.1. Pasteurised .....	6	—
Sterilised .....	9	—
Homogenised Pasteurised .....	12	—
	<hr/> 45	<hr/> —

In addition there are installed in various shops and/or restaurants milk dispensers for the supply of milk for consumption on the premises. We keep a careful watch on the purity of this method of supplying milk.

**Milk Sample—Brucella Abortus**

There were no samples for this period during the year. In consultation with the Public Analyst he felt that there had been sufficient sampling carried out in the area at processing centres.

**PREMISES REGISTERED UNDER SECTION 16  
FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955**

Ice Cream Premises 127; Fish Frying Premises 19; Sausages and Prepared Meat Premises 40.

These premises are maintained in a satisfactory condition.

## Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

The following are the variety of food premises for which complete records are maintained.

CATEGORY—	No. of Premises	No. fitted to comply with Reg. 16	No. to which Reg. 19 applies	No. fitted to comply with Reg. 19
Ice Cream Premises .....	127	127	127	116
Fish Friers Premises .....	19	19	19	19
Sausages and Prepared Meat Premises .....	40	37*	40	37
Licensed Premises & Clubs	60	60	60	60
Bakehouses .....	7	7	7	7
Greengrocers .....	12	12	—	—
Wet Fish, Fruit & Veg. ....	9	9	9	9
Grocers .....	164	160*	164	150
Catering Establishments ....	32	32	32	32
Butchers Premises .....	37	34*	37	34
	<u>567</u>	<u>497</u>	<u>495</u>	<u>464</u>

\* Communal facilities provided in covered market.

## Poultry Inspection

Poultry is examined in routine inspection at all retail outlets within the Borough. We have no poultry processing premises.

## WATER SAMPLES

Five hundred and thirty-five samples of water were taken for bacteriological examinations during the year. This represents a carefully selected series of samples prepared in consultation with the Medical Officer of Health, so that month by month a complete check is made of every source used in the Borough for drinking purposes and also for swimming purposes at our indoor baths.

Of the samples taken forty-six were found to be unsatisfactory. Of these twenty were from unchlorinated water taken before treatment. All are summarised below:-

### Before Chlorination:

River Neath .....	6
River Neath, Intake 1 and 2 .....	1 Doubtful
Cwmwernderi .....	4
Cwmgwineu .....	2
Ynysgywas .....	2
Cwmphillip .....	2

### After Chlorination:

Aberavon Area .....	7
Margam Area .....	2
Aberavon Area Docks .....	2
Bryn Area .....	1
Goytre Area .....	2
River Neath Intake Works .....	1 Doubtful



Other unsatisfactory samples were from the Leate Margam, 2; a stream in the Baglan Area (non drinking source) 1; a stream in the Bryn Area 1.

### **Swimming Pools and Paddling Pools**

156 samples of water were taken for bacteriological examination and 148 for chemical examination. There were eight unsatisfactory bacteriological results and these circumstances were immediately rectified.

### **FOOD HYGIENE**

1968 was a year of continued progress in the sphere of food hygiene. The fact that it was relatively uneventful is I feel all to the good. However, the general quietness was disturbed by the need to deal in a very serious manner with widespread contraventions of food hygiene regulations in one of the cafes in the town. No fewer than eleven separate informations were laid before the Magistrates. Briefly the contraventions were in respect of dirty conditions of the food preparation rooms; dirty and greasy utensils; shelving and apparatus; dirty and defective wash hand basins and sink; foul conditions of exposed refuse bins; absence of first aid materials; foul and dilapidated conditions in the yard; defective and choked drainage systems and accumulations of rubbish. Information was also laid in respect of having in the possession of the restaurateur, for the purpose of preparation of sale, five chickens in an unfit condition.

The Magistrates found the cases proved in every instance and imposed fines totalling £77 5s. 0d. including costs. In addition an application was placed before the Magistrates under the provisions of Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, for the event of the Local Authority proving the cases, the restaurateur to be disqualified from using the Restaurant as a catering premises. The Magistrates approved this application and imposed the disqualification for a period of six months.

The restaurateur delayed the closing of the premises as he put in an appeal against the conviction which he withdrew before its hearing and then transferred the premises to another restaurateur for the period of the suspension. As soon as the suspension was over the original restaurateur returned to the premises and conducted the business again.

The Port Talbot Public Health Committee have been for some time gravely perturbed at the insufficiency of the law in regard to unsatisfactory catering establishments and feel that the legislation should be extended to cause a suspension of a business as well as the restaurateur for a certain period and to make certain that conditions were entirely satisfactory before reopening. This was a classic example of a premises being able to be kept open despite a suspension on the restaurateur by the Magistrates. Attempts have been made through the Ministry and the

Association of Municipal Corporations as well as endeavouring to gain support from other Authorities for steps to be taken towards the amendment of the law in this respect. We are aware that opinion in many other parts of the country is in line with this thought, and one can only hope that in the course of time the Government may feel disposed to acknowledge the weight of opinion against the insufficiency of legislation in dealing with insanitary food premises.

We did good work during the year in our inspections of food vehicles, stalls, etc., as well as permanent premises. A great deal of work by way of the service of notices on occupiers of vehicles and stalls has been carried out and the results of this has been quite satisfactory.

We pride ourselves in Port Talbot in having a high standard in food hygiene, but this in turn presents problems, because there are Local Authorities who interpret the provisions of Food Hygiene Regulations in somewhat different ways. It is very often mystifying to the governing bodies of various food concerns who come to Port Talbot, whilst having premises in other towns, to find that we ask for certain methods and measures of food protection which are not asked for in other towns. This leads one to hope that the Ministry may feel it wise at some stage to prepare a standard in many features of food hygiene which could be followed in a uniform basis by all Local Authorities.

### **BACTERIOLOGICAL SAMPLING OF ICE CREAM**

During the year seventeen samples of ice-cream were taken for bacteriological examination. Of these, thirteen were reported upon by the Public Analyst as being satisfactory and classified Grade I, four were classified as Grade II (fair).

Twenty-three samples were taken for food and drugs purposes and the examination for preservatives and bacteriological substances and in addition the Analyst reported on another seventeen in this way, which had been taken primarily for bacteriological examination. All these chemical results were reported upon satisfactory. We have 6 ice-cream manufacturers and 127 registered for sale of ice-cream. There are also a number of people selling ice-cream from stalls, vehicles, etc.

## **INVESTIGATION OF ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION**

### **Daily Volumetric Readings of Smoke and Sulphur Dioxide— Monthly Readings of Deposits of Grit, Dust, Soot, etc., Sulphur Dioxide**

We continued through the year with our volumetric recording of smoke and sulphur dioxide at our five stations which are:-

- (a) Our own Department.
- (b) Groeswen Hospital, Margam.
- (c) The Pavilion, Margam.
- (d) Baglan Clinic.
- (e) Sandfields Library, Morrison Road.

In addition, as usual the Steel Company of Wales continued their own recordings from their own stations and the exchange of Analyst's reports continued.

We measure grit, dust and soot deposits and sulphur dioxide by the sulphur candle method at the station in Taibach. Set out on page 48 is the tabulated statement showing the highest/lowest average readings of smoke and sulphur dioxide from each of the five stations, and on pages 51 and 52 are the usual statistics giving the record deposits of grit, dust, soot, etc., and sulphur pollution recorded by ourselves and the Steel Company of Wales.

In general, we were able to report that during the year there was no worsening in conditions of atmospheric pollution in Port Talbot. We were resting content that in 1969 there would take place the transfer to the B.O.S. Plant with the discontinuance of the existing open hearth furnaces. We know this is well in progress.

There was no more than the occasional flare stack disturbance from the plant of B.P. Chemicals Baglan and generally a satisfactory standard was maintained.

**ATMOSPHERIC FIGURES 1968**  
(Microgrammes per Cubic Metre)

MONTH.	STATION.	SMOKE.			SULPHUR DIOXIDE		
		Highest.	Lowest.	Ave.	Highest.	Lowest.	Ave.
January .....	1	81	9	41	100	13	58
	2	88	0	35	167	18	98
	3	40	6	18	80	9	36
	4	149	14	45	97	0	45
	5	91	9	38	85	0	45
February .....	1	99	0	52	172	6	62
	2	92	14	46	187	22	82
	3	74	2	36	32	0	9
	4	88	7	48	113	0	62
	5	213	2	59	106	11	51
March .....	1	95	0	39	247	7	69
	2	106	7	36	437	0	116
	3	76	0	30	75	0	20
	4	132	10	22	174	0	45
	5	124	3	34	108	14	45
April .....	1	276	0	29	142	18	58
	2	38	0	22	138	0	73
	3	78	0	21	117	0	30
	4	54	3	21	86	12	37
	5	47	0	24	73	21	41
May .....	1	62	0	24	115	0	52
	2	74	0	21	187	0	67
	3	40	0	17	96	0	32
	4	48	2	12	127	0	33
	5	35	2	13	81	20	53
June .....	1	42	0	23	119	0	56
	2	65	0	31	124	0	56
	3	50	0	17	63	0	22
	4	40	2	14	88	0	42
	5	59	1	13	100	27	53
July .....	1	53	5	19	94	26	51
	2	43	3	19	97	14	33
	3	41	4	19	66	0	30
	4	25	3	11	90	31	58
	5	23	2	10	85	33	54
August .....	1	23	2	10	85	33	54
	1	57	3	24	107	25	51
	2	75	4	24	120	0	50
	3	47	14	22	58	0	15
	4	28	7	17	154	51	88
September.....	5	20	0	12	66	0	35
	1	43	5	23	98	0	47
	2	62	8	31	113	20	47
	3	34	5	20	97	0	23
	4	22	0	9	98	20	63
October .....	5	33	1	14	96	0	62
	1	48	8	30	233	50	73
	2	95	13	40	179	0	52
	3	49	0	24	84	0	30
	4	31	0	12	163	0	95
November .....	5	51	0	20	85	21	65
	1	75	7	31	129	31	63
	2	Meter Breakdown No Readings.			89	15	24
	3	95	10	31	179	55	93
	4	71	6	23	105	36	67
December .....	5	79	5	34			
	1	68	0	32	139	0	53
	2	Meter Breakdown No Readings.			40	0	31
	3	79	18	38	105	0	65
	4	39	0	18	108	0	48
	5	77	14	38			

## INSTALLATION AND PRIOR APPROVAL OF NEW FURNACES

Section 3 Clean Air Act 1956 requires all new furnaces (except domestic ones) to be capable of being operated continuously without emitting smoke when burning fuel of a kind for which they are designed.

Notification to the Local Authority is also necessary when it is intended to install a furnace exceeding an output of 55,000 b.t.u.'s per hour.

The following notices of intention to install apparatus were received from:-

1. Mechema Ltd., Talbot Wharf, Port Talbot.
2. Laundrette, 96 Talbot Road, Port Talbot.
3. Cramic Group of Companies, Port Talbot.
4. British Steel Corporation, Port Talbot.
5. Margam Slag Company.
6. Government Training Centre, Old Steel Works.
7. B.O.C. Company, Longlands Lane, Margam.
8. Bristol Plant Hire Ltd., Llewellyn Quay, Port Talbot.
9. Messrs. Jones Motors (Kenfig Hill) Ltd., Llewellyn's Quay, Port Talbot.
10. J. R. Freeman & Son Ltd., Factory, Port Talbot.
11. Borg Warner & Co. Ltd., Kenfig.
12. Barclays Bank, Port Talbot.

## CONTROL OF CHIMNEY HEIGHTS

As required we ensure compliance with Section 10 of the Clean Air Act, 1956, regarding the heights of chimneys using as our guide the Ministry of Housing and Local Government Memorandum on Chimney heights.

## ALKALI WORKS

The following local works and processes are under the control of the Alkali Inspectorate under the provisions of the Alkali etc. Works Order.

Name of Firm:	Work or Processes Registered:
British Steel Corporation .....	Sulphate of Ammonia, Benzene, Gas and Coke, Iron and Steel, (Blast Furnaces) Sinter Plant, Open Hearth Furnaces, Bessemer Furnaces, Oxygen.
Wales Gas Board .....	Gas and Coke.
The Distillers Company Limited .....	Lime.
Metallurgical Chemists Ltd. ....	Paraffin, Oil, Hydrochloric Acid.
B.P. (Chemicals) Ltd. ....	Paraffin, Oil, Chlorine.

It is nice to be able to say yet again that Mr. J. C. Peabody the District Alkali Inspector has shown himself to be admirable in his sense of co-operation with us in matters relating to atmospheric pollution.



# **RECORDS OF DEPOSITED POLLUTION OF DUST, SOOT, Etc.**

(In tons per sq. mile)

Month.	TAIBACH						
	1962.	1963.	1964.	1965.	1966.	1967.	1968.
January .....	104.47	6.09	17.69	79.30	x	42.50	49.29
February .....	35.42	4.31	14.34	3.83	68.78	53.52	26.68
March .....	x	53.83	22.01	46.07	63.92	57.07	37.39
April .....	53.21	53.04	51.37	57.25	47.88	32.58	25.80
May .....	54.42	53.49	82.78†	55.40	94.55	80.74	34.41
June .....	39.87	*	74.36‡	102.77	33.02	33.50	59.80
July .....	34.42	40.45		57.25	38.68	64.16	29.14
August .....	71.65	59.44	40.19	34.66	47.15	35.10	40.46
September .....	70.77	36.24	46.19	22.93	53.07	56.00	43.47
October .....	35.90	40.76	49.86	33.53	49.92	115.32	48.9
November .....	34.89	**	59.86	38.91	50.57	36.60	17.98
December .....	26.42	14.79	90.93	140.03	73.60	56.73	30.30
TOTAL .....	561.44	362.44	549.98	671.93	618.14	663.82	443.71

\* Bottle tampered with.      x Bottle stolen.

\*\* No result—bottle blown over in wind.

† 1st May—11th June.      ‡ 12th June—31st July.



# **DEPOSITED POLLUTION OF DUST, SOOT, Etc.** (In tons per square mile).

Records supplied by the Steel Company of Wales.

## STATIONS.

MONTH	THOMAS BROS.			BAGLAN HALL				COLLEGE OF FURTHER EDUCATION				
	1965	1966	1967	1968	1965	1966	1967	1968	1965	1966	1967	1968
January	31.23	29.34	23.68	14.36	14.33	21.72	12.15	*	47.18	52.08	34.33	19.73
February	5.19	39.44	18.52	12.96	2.58	15.36	12.75	4.13	9.27	46.08	34.92	31.62
March	23.47	16.42	15.72	27.77	16.69	7.33	4.85	12.93	39.85	23.75	31.26	42.09
April	23.13	19.56	11.04	7.48	8.66	10.06	24.06	10.48	43.10	28.65	22.11	23.83
May	26.89	8.13	29.68	*	*	9.22	37.37	*	35.42	23.63	38.07	*
June	30.72	16.80	7.68	20.33	19.80	18.99	4.19	32.72	45.34	43.76	23.05	58.75
July	30.28	22.35	20.96	11.64	18.06	13.97	22.03	10.40	62.17	42.27	49.6	30.04
August	9.49	13.10	26.19	*	9.64	6.81	10.65	*	26.41	20.01	45.75	*
September	14.22	20.57	46.11	41.22	10.02	15.55	*	24.45	29.82	34.86	65.67	51.35
October	9.52	18.76	33.88	12.23	3.50	10.47	6.67	7.26	20.12	21.17	31.43	39.64
November	28.65	26.30	20.57	6.98	16.32	21.48	12.26	4.19	42.36	32.48	31.79	19.21
December	15.68	33.50	19.35	7.33	8.33	23.92	14.01	6.11	30.036	55.05	19.24	24.45
TOTAL	248.47	264.27	273.27	162.30	127.93	174.89	160.99	112.67	430.976	423.79	427.12	340.71

\* No sample—funnel accidentally removed.

**INVESTIGATION OF ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION**  
**Sulphur Pollution Records as Supplied by Steel Company of Wales.**  
 (Estimation by lead peroxide)  
 STATIONS.

MONTH	THOMAS BROS.		COLLEGE OF FURTHER EDUCATION		BAGLAN HALL, PORT TALBOT		
	1966	1967	1968	1966	1967	1968	1968
January	3.46	3.41	1.41	2.29	1.47	2.22	0.75
February	4.07	2.84	2.16	1.88	2.08	1.68	0.37
March	1.38	1.77	1.50	1.36	1.93	1.51	0.02
April	1.69	2.60	1.72	1.00	1.24	1.09	1.55
May	0.52	2.65	*	1.27	1.20	*	0.36
June	0.47	0.59	0.62	1.08	1.00	1.03	0.19
July	0.50	0.45	0.75	0.94	0.87	0.81	0.22
August	0.62	0.60	*	0.93	1.35	*	0.26
September	0.69	1.59	1.31	1.54	1.21	1.31	0.28
October	1.47	1.48	2.55	0.88	2.24	1.60	0.74
November	1.25	1.52	3.15	0.51	1.62	2.12	*
December	1.68	1.43	2.08	1.25	1.43	2.93	2.13
TOTAL	15.38	17.80	17.25	15.93	17.64	16.30	6.87
							5.45
							4.41

\* No result, sample spoiled.

# PORT TALBOT RAINFALL

(Rainfall in inches)

Month.	GROES.						
	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
January .....	5.17	0.51	0.80	4.93	2.84	3.38	*
February .....	1.78	1.97	1.86	0.07	4.88	4.97	1.51
March .....	2.51	5.42	3.42	3.17	2.34	1.97	2.49
April .....	3.14	3.98	2.07	2.94	5.93	1.26	2.47
May .....	2.98	2.04	2.60	3.12	3.43	6.14	3.21
June .....	1.08	2.62	2.01	4.07	3.57	0.96	4.81
July .....	3.13	2.31	3.25	4.62	2.13	4.30	*
August .....	4.50	5.06	2.76	2.08	4.01		2.51
September .....	4.92	2.51	1.74	3.66	2.00	8.20	5.85
October .....	1.28	2.35	4.28	1.31	4.55	9.43	5.60
November .....	3.06	9.73	3.01	4.85	2.96	2.29	3.33
December .....	2.59	1.53	5.76	11.12	5.63	4.79	3.56
TOTAL .....	36.14	40.03	33.56	45.94	44.27	47.69	41.68

Month.	REGENT, TAIBACH						
	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
January .....	5.08	0.31	0.85	4.87	*	2.81	3.95
February .....	1.92	0.32	1.36	0.03	4.80	4.64	1.29
March .....	*	4.90	3.05	2.33	1.97	3.18	1.31
April .....	3.21	3.83	1.98	2.66	4.87	1.06	2.32
May .....	3.11	1.76	3.32†	3.25	4.30	8.38	3.15
June .....	0.95	*	3.34‡	3.81	2.28	1.27	4.76
July .....	2.60	2.14		3.76	2.30	3.93	3.69
August .....	4.43	5.21	2.27	2.27	3.25	2.49	3.06
September .....	5.43	2.53	1.63	2.30	1.43	5.35	4.59
October .....	1.40	2.00	4.46	0.74	5.87	6.36	4.57
November .....	3.16	*	3.36	4.15	3.03	2.27	2.96
December .....	2.49	1.39	5.90	6.82	5.25	4.47	3.24
TOTAL .....	33.69	24.39	31.52	37.19	39.35	46.21	38.89

\* Bottle broken or stolen. † 1st May—11th June. ‡ 12th June—31st July.

# PORT TALBOT SUNSHINE

(Sunshine in hours)

Month.	GROES.						
	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
January .....	66.6	86.1	35.1	65.9	34.1	56.4	*
February .....	86.3	97.6	45.8	50.6	35.1	99.9	99.8
March .....	130.3	107.1	94.5	136.2	118.7	136.7	138.8
April .....	160.4	126.5	120.8	173.1	123.4	141.5	147.0
May .....	186.2	161.4	134.8	155.1	226.2	149.5	148.2
June .....	246.9	179.2	109.4	155.7	161.5	188.2	174.8
July .....	159.2	147.2	131.6	131.4	181.9	180.9	*
August .....	145.1	127.2	155.5	192.0	187.7	*	163.2
September .....	110.9	117.6	149.3	113.8	163.6	142.8	136.1
October .....	150.0	60.3	95.5	139.7	116.3	68.1	47.3
November .....	47.6	57.2	74.6	84.2	72.4	97.7	60.7
December .....	67.6	60.1	46.8	61.4	43.3	58.3	48.5
TOTAL .....	1557.1	1327.5	1193.7	1469.1	1464.2	1320.0	1164.4

\* No Result

The following list indicates those chimney stacks in the Borough which still come under our own supervision and those coming within the control of the Alkali Inspectorate:—

No.	DESCRIPTION			Ground. Height above	
				Ft.	Ins.
LOCAL AUTHORITY.	( 1	Margam "A" Power House	— 5 Chimneys	105	0
	( 2A	Margam "B" Power House	— 1 Chimney	120	9
	( 2B	Margam "B" Power House	— 1 Chimney	230	0
	( 3	(Abbey Soaking Pits	— 12 Chimneys	100	0
	(	(Abbey Soaking Pits	— 7 Chimneys	161	1½
	( 4	Abbey Slab Reheating Furnaces	— 5 Recuperators	136	3½
	( 5	Abbey Annealing Furnaces	— 9 Chimneys (Ducts)	80	0
ALKALI INSPECTORATE.	( 6	Acid Recovery Plant	— 1 Chimney	157	10
	( 7	Abbey Services Boiler House	— 3 Chimneys	120	4
		MARGAM:			
	( 8	No. 1 Blast Furnace Bleeder	— 3 Uptakes	192	8½
	( 9	No. 2 Blast Furnace Bleeder	— 3 "	233	11
	(10	No. 3 Blast Furnace Bleeder	— 3 "	233	11
	(11	No. 4 Blast Furnace Bleeder	— 3 "	251	5
	(12	No. 5 Blast Furnace Bleeder	— 3 "	253	6½
	(13	No. 1 Blast Furnace	— 1 Chimney (Stove)	203	6
	(14	No. 2 Blast Furnace	— 1 " "	203	6
	(15	No. 3 Blast Furnace	— 1 " "	203	6
	(16	No. 4 Blast Furnace	— 1 " "	242	0
	(17	No. 5 Blast Furnace	— 1 " "	242	0
	(18	No. 4 Blast Furnace Bleeder Stack	— 3 Chimneys	240	9
	(19	No. 5 Blast Furnace Bleeder Stack	— 3 "	242	0
	(20A	Blast Furnace Clean Gas Bleeder	— 1 "	114	6
	(20B	Blast Furnace Clean Gas Bleeder	— 1 "	64	9
	(21	Coke Ovens—No. 2 Battery	— 1 "	235	10
	(22	Coke Ovens—No. 3 Battery	— 1 "	235	10
	(23	Coke Ovens—No. 4 Battery	— 1 "	257	6
	(24	Coke Ovens—No. 5 Battery	— 1 "	235	8
	(25	Coke Oven Gas Bleeder Stack (New)	— 3 "	210	0
	(26	Coke Oven Bleeder Stack (Old)	— 1 "	85	0
	(27A	Sinter Plant	— 1 "	279	8½
	(27B	Sinter Plant	— 1 "	278	10½
	(28	Sinter Strand	— 4 "	121	9
	(29	Sinter Strand	— 4 "	103	4½
	(30	Sinter Strand	— 4 "	85	7½
	(31	E.P. Plant	— 1 "	120	0
	(32	Attritor House	— 1 "	75	8
	(33	Sludge Filtration Plant	— 1 "	56	0
		ABBEEY:			
	(34	Melting Shop	— 12 Chimneys *(4)	151	6¾
	(35	Dust Precipitation Plant (Maerz Furnaces)	— 1 "	220	3
	(36	No. 6 Coke Oven Battery	— 1 "	259	1
	(37	Coke Oven Gas Bleeder Stack	— 3 "	150	10
	(38	Slab Deseamer (Scarfer)	— 1 "	58	6
	(39	V.L.N. Plant Converter Stack	— 4 "	131	10
	(40	Fume Exhaust	— 4 "	100	0
	(41	Open Hearth Electrostatic Precipitator	— 1 "	220	0
	(42	British Steel Corporation Packaged Bottle Unit	— 1 "	120	39
	(43	British Steel Corporation New LP Boiler Plant	— 1 "	220	0

\* Not in Normal Use.

## FACTORIES

The activities of your Chief Public Health Inspector's Department in relation to those duties imposed upon this Council by the Factory Acts of 1937/61 were as follows:—

### 1.—Inspection of Factories.

Premises on Register (1)	Inspection (2)	Number of written Notices (3)	Occupiers Prosecuted (4)
176	144	16	—

### 2.—Particulars Found in Factories.

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND				Referred		Cases in which prose- cutions were instituted
Particulars	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector		
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	19	19	—	1	—	
Overcrowding (S.2)	3	3	—	—	—	
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	6	6	—	—	—	
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	3	3	—	—	—	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—	
Accumulation	—	—	—	—	—	
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):—						
(a) Insufficient	5	5	—	—	—	
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—	—	
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—	
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating Outworkers)	12	12	—	—	—	

## RODENT CONTROL

There is some little increase in the activities of the Department in rodent control. This can of course be expected with the extra staff appointed last year, engaged on the work. Not so much, in any significant increase in the number of complaints, as in the amount of rodent work which the staff can now perform, and this will progressively increase, it is hoped.

We remain concerned that the continued infestation at refuse tips, etc., and with the continuing movement of rats due to the filling in of the Baglan Moors. We must still plea very strongly against the unsanitary habits of people who will persist in indiscriminate tipping of rubbish, in all kinds of places. This practice, quite apart from being so unsightly keeps the Department constantly engaged in the ensuing rodent infestation.

Rats 554;      Mice 85;      Total 639.  
1,496 premises were treated in the area.



# MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FOOD

## ANNUAL REPORT ON RATS AND MICE

### Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 Year ended 31st December, 1968

Properties other than Sewers.	Type of Property.	
	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural.
1. Number of properties in district .....	18,699	59
2. (a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification .....	629	10
(b) Number infested by (i) Rats .....	554	10
(ii) Mice .....	85	—
3. (a) Total number of properties Inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification .....	805	52
(b) Number Infested by (i) Rats .....	805	52
(ii) Mice .....	—	—
Sewers.		
4. Were any sewers infested by rats during the year? Yes.		

### Maintenance Treatment of Rats In Sewers.

In accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food a percentage of our sewer manholes are treated twice annually. Brief particulars of both treatments during the year are as follows:—

Treatment:	1968
Number of manholes treated .....	425
Number showing Bait taken .....	126
Bait used: Warfarin.	

## NOISE ABATEMENT

### 1. TRAINING

To date five members of the Chief Public Health Inspector's Department have attended courses dealing with industrial noise. The remainder of the staff will be trained as soon as suitable courses have been arranged.

### 2. EQUIPMENT

The Council has purchased a small Noise Level Indicator and recently purchased a B & K Precision Noise Level Indicator including the Octave Filter Set. This equipment will enable the Council to take far more accurate readings and observations.



### 3. SOURCES OF NOISE

During the past two years the Council has dealt with five major sources of noise in the Borough, as follows:—

- (a) **Hydro Carbon Plant**—noise from a steam ejector. This was remedied by splitting one ejector into two and muffling all the waste steam ejections at the rear of the plant.
- (b) **Clothes Manufacturing Factory**—vibration from numerous machines causing noise and vibration disturbance to retail shops underneath. The vibration was caused by machines being placed on an asbestos lined floor. The complaint was remedied by providing rubber suppressors to each machine, thus reducing the noise and vibration to a reasonable level.
- (c) **Tobacco Factory**—noise from boiler house. The noise was reduced by obtaining secondary means of sufficient air, so that doors and windows which formerly had to be left open could remain closed.
- (d) **Gas Works**—Problem of Reducing Valves. Following consultations with the University of Wales, Engineering Department of Noise, baffle walls were built around the Reducing Valves.
- (e) **Metal Closure Factory**—noise from the compressor. This matter was alleviated by the provision of a baffle around the compressor.

#### **SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT 1964**

Four new registrations were made in the year, two itinerant collectors and two for Scrap Merchants. This brings the total on our register to seventeen, eight in respect of itinerant collectors and eight for dealers operating from permanent premises.

#### **PET ANIMALS ACT 1951**

Two licences, the same as issued in former years, were issued in 1968. The conditions were quite satisfactory.

#### **ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT 1963**

The licence in respect of our one premises was re-issued in 1968. The establishment continued in general to be well kept.

#### **RIDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1964**

Our three riding establishments were re-licensed in the year. Our consultant veterinary surgeon examined them on our behalf and found them all to be satisfactory and well conducted.

#### **COMMON LODGING HOUSES**

We continue to have no common lodging houses in the Borough.

#### **OFFENSIVE TRADES**

We renewed the applications for the two offensive trades which have existed in the Borough for some years. They refer to one rag and bone collector and a fat melter and abstractor.

## **LAND CHARGES ACT, 1925**

Four hundred and fifty-two enquiries were received from the Town Clerk as a result of applications made under the Land Charges Act, 1925.

## **RENT ACT, 1957**

### **RENT RESTRICTIONS REGULATIONS, 1957**

No applications for certificates under these Regulations were received during the year.

## **CINEMA INSPECTIONS**

There are now only three cinemas in the town. The advent of Bingo over the years has caused a decrease to this number. The three cinemas were inspected in the usual manner and they were all re-licensed subject to certain matters of repair and decoration, as well as fire precautionary measures carried out.

## **INSPECTIONS OF COUNCIL HOUSES**

400 visits and inspections were made to council houses on application by tenants to exchange houses, or as a result of their termination of tenancy. Of these inspections seven were found to be not satisfactory for re-occupation before work of cleansing or disinfection was carried out.

Where repairs are necessary, so these are carried out by the Property Repairs section of the Borough Surveyor's Department. We continue our work of causing houses to be disinfested because of verminous conditions as and when found necessary. Our practice is to try, in the initial stages to help people, by advice and by a free treatment of disinfection. Seven dirty or verminous cases were dealt with during the year.

## **HOUSING ACT, 1957**

The following is the record of the Department's work during the year.

### **Individual Unfit Houses:**

A total of 34 houses were dealt with under Part II, Housing Act, 1957, regarding individual properties.

These were made up of the following:-

(a) Closing Orders .....	31
(b) Closing Orders—part of a building .....	1
(c) Demolition Orders .....	2

### **Clearance Areas:**

Work carried out during 1968 involving the use of Clearance Order procedure under Part III of the Housing Act, 1957, is summarised as follows:-

#### **(a) Borough of Port Talbot (Woodfield Street, Talbach, Port Talbot). Clearance Area No. 1, Compulsory Purchase Order.**

The Clearance Area which concerns the eight houses Nos. 2—16 was declared on 28th February, 1968, and on 29th May, 1968, Council decided to make a Compulsory Purchase Order. The Order, on being submitted to the Welsh Office, was objected to by two interested parties. A Public Inquiry was held on 17th December, and the order was confirmed without modification.

**(b) Borough of Port Talbot (Cwmavon Road, Aberavon, Port Talbot).  
Clearance Area No. 2, Compulsory Purchase Order, 1968.**

This Clearance Order involving 5 houses (Nos. 44—52) was declared on 28th February, 1968, and Council determined to make a Compulsory Purchase Order on 29th May, 1968. There being no objections to the Order, it was confirmed by the Secretary of State on 13th December, 1968.

**(c) Borough of Port Talbot (Cornish Row, Cwmavon).  
Clearance Area No. 3 Compulsory Purchase Order, 1968.**

The Area involves 8 houses, namely Nos. 1—8 Cornish Row, Cwmavon.

The Clearance Area was declared on the 28th February, 1968, and Council determined to make a Compulsory Purchase Order on the same date. There being one objection to the Order, a Public Inquiry was held on 17th December, 1968.

**(d) Port Talbot (Ty Maen Street, Cwmavon).  
Clearance Area No. 4 Compulsory Purchase Order, 1969**

Shortly before the end of the year on 18 December, 1968, a Clearance Area was declared in respect of 30 houses (Nos. 29 to 58) in Ty Maen Street, Cwmavon. The remaining procedure in the area would be undertaken in the year 1969.

## **THE NATIONAL ELECTRICITY GENERATING BOARD**

With Council's permission we allowed the National Electricity Generating Board to establish a test site for the measurement of the reducing effect of the atmosphere using standard Zinc Reference Units. This small unit will remain in this position for approximately three years.

The research is in connection with the determination of atmospheric corrosion conditions throughout Great Britain, with the results to produce a map showing how metals and paintwork will be affected by atmospheric conditions in different parts of the country.

## **STAFF**

There was no change in the composition of the existing staff in the year, but Council accepted a report of mine to appoint an Administrative Assistant to improve this aspect of the Department's activities. I am pleased therefore to be able to report that Mr. David Crowley was appointed to this post. Mr. Crowley had previously been engaged in the Borough Surveyor's Department. His value to the Department is proving itself in no small way.

# OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT REPORT, 1968

## Registration:

During 1968 twenty-one new registrations of premises were received. These were as a result of routine inspections being carried out under various duties of the inspectorate and it was also found necessary to re-classify a number of premises. Two premises previously registered were closed and subsequently taken off the list. The following table indicates the number of registered premises, as on the 31st December, 1968, with the comparison figures for the years 1965, 1966 and 1967.

Offices .....	168	171	171	177
Retail Shops .....	412	415	396	406
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses .....	9	9	9	11
Catering Establishments open to the public, Canteens .....	18	18	39	40
Totals .....	602	613	615	634

The number of persons employed under the various categories of registered premise are as follows:-

	1966	1967	1968
Offices .....	932	981	997
Retail Shops .....	1,419	1,418	1,442
Wholesale .....	93	111	116
Catering .....	348	445	450
Canteens (* Note A) .....	21	7	8
Females .....	1,756	1,947	1,980
Males .....	1,057	1,015	1,033

\*NOTE A—Factory canteens are not included in this figure, as the regulations so far as these premises are concerned, come under the jurisdiction of the Factory Inspector.

Initial inspections of premises continued throughout the year as did considerable numbers of re-inspections. Two hundred and twenty-six contraventions were noted which necessitated the service of notices which are analysed in the following table:-

Sec. 4.	Failure to keep premises clean .....	37
Sec. 6.	Failure to provide thermometers .....	33
Sec. 6.	Inadequate means of heating .....	6
Sec. 6.	Failure to display Abstract of the Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act, 1963 .....	36
Sec. 7.	Rooms not effectively ventilated .....	16
Sec. 8.	Failure to provide suitable and sufficient lighting:	
	(a) Rooms .....	7
	(b) Corridors/Staircases .....	1
Sec. 9.	Failure to provide sufficient sanitary accommodation .....	1
Sec. 9.	No indication which sex to use toilet .....	1
Sec. 9.	Failure to provide effectively ventilated sanitary accommodation .....	7
Sec. 9.	Fittings in need of repair .....	6
Sec. 9.	Failure to provide means for disposal of sanitary dressings .....	
Sec. 10.	Failure to provide sufficient washing facilities .....	6
Sec. 12.	No provision for drying or hanging clothes .....	1



Sec. 16.	Failure to maintain floors and floor covering in good repair:	
	Rooms .....	12
	Ceilings .....	6
Sec. 16.	Corridors obstructed by stock, goods, etc. ....	3
Sec. 16.	Failure to provide handrails .....	2
Sec. 24.	Failure to provide First Aid Box .....	27

Following up notices previously sent shows the following completed:-

Sec. 4.	Cleanliness .....	39
Sec. 5.	Overcrowding .....	—
Sec. 6.	(a) Reasonable temperature .....	7
	(b) Provision of thermometer .....	48
Sec. 7.	Provision of adequate ventilation .....	18
Sec. 8.	Lighting:	
	(a) Rooms .....	5
	(b) Staircases .....	6
	(c) Cleaning of windows .....	3
	(d) Repairs to glazing .....	4
Sec. 9.	(a) Provision of separate sanitary accommodation .....	1
	(b) Cleanliness .....	13
	(c) Adequate ventilation .....	6
	(d) Separate conveniences for sexes .....	2
	(e) Obstructions removed .....	7
Sec. 10.	(a) Washing facilities .....	6
	(b) Hot water .....	18
	(c) Fixtures repaired .....	4
Sec. 12.	Accommodation for clothing .....	10
Sec. 16.	Floors and floor covering .....	12
	Removal of obstructions .....	11
	Repairs to staircases .....	2
	Handrails .....	3
	First Aid Boxes .....	36
	Abstract of Act provided .....	34

All new plans submitted to the Authority and subject to the Act are scrutinised and where necessary the developer has been informed should attention be required to conform with the Act.

### General Observations:

I feel that I must re-iterate that the Ministry should now after five years of operation of the Act bring out lighting standards that would enable uniformity throughout the country to be made.

### Accidents:

During the year eight accidents were received. Of these five required investigation. Following the investigations work was required to be carried out in three premises in order to obviate similar accidents.



Detailed Analysis of Accidents is as follows:-

ACCIDENTS	CLASS OF PREMISES			TOTAL
	Office.	Shop.	Catering Establishment open to the Public.	
1. No. of accidents reported .....	—	8	—	8
2. No. of accidents investigated .....	—	5	—	5
<b>3. Action Taken:</b>				
(a) Advice given .....	—	3	—	3
(b) No action .....	—	5	—	5
<b>4. Causation:</b>				
(a) Handling goods .....	—	2	—	2
(b) Struck by falling object .....	—	1	—	1
(c) Falls from one level to another .....	—	1	—	1
(d) Hand tools .....	—	3	—	3
<b>5. Injuries sustained:</b>				
(a) Bruising .....	—	1	—	1
(b) Open Wounds .....	—	4	—	4
(c) Burns .....	—	1	—	1
(d) Sprains and Strains .....	—	2	—	2
(e) Fractures .....	—	—	—	—

### MAGISTERIAL COURT PROCEEDINGS

A restaurateur was charged with ten offences against the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960, and also for the deposit for sale of chickens unfit for human consumption.

The Magistrates found the cases proved and imposed fines and costs totalling £77/5s./0d. In addition, upon an application being made by the Local Authority, the Magistrates imposed a suspension on the restaurateur for a period of six months.

Proceedings were instituted against a firm of bakers in connection with the sale of a sausage roll containing the larvae of a flour moth, contrary to Section 2 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955. The sausage roll had been purchased from a vending machine and had been supplied to the operators of the vending machine by the bakers, and thus the local authority, in considering that the offence was due to the default of the latter, proceeded under the provisions of Section 113 of the Food and Drugs Act 1935. The case was proved and a fine of £20 was imposed with costs of £3/5s./0d.







1969

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